

Hafa Adai!

BECO, BSI agree to settlement of enforcement actions. **PAGE 3**

Local food featured in Cuisine Night. **PAGE 6**

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HOUSE WAYS ON MEANS CHAIR ON RESOLVING BUDGET IMPASSE: 'There are other funding sources'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

There are other funding sources that the CNMI government could tap into aside from the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2017, according to Rep. Antonio P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan). The Legislature is trying to work in passing House Bill 19-196 or the Appropriations and Budget Authority Act of 2017 that he introduced.



Sablan

Last Saturday, in an emergency session, the House of Representatives voted 18-2 to reject the Senate version that reduced the Marianas Visitors Authority's funds by \$1.5 million while increasing the budget for Rota (\$7.7 million) and Tinian (\$7.8 million).

Passing the CNMI FY 2017 budget goes to a bicameral conference committee composed of three members each from the House and Senate. Sablan, being the House Ways

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MVA taken aback by proposed Senate budget cuts

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority is surprised that \$1.59 million—or roughly 11 percent of its earmarks—is being proposed by the Senate to be deducted from its budget for Fiscal Year 2017.

During yesterday's regular board of directors meeting at the

MVA conference room, MVA managing director Chris Concepcion disagreed with the Senate's decision to lap off over \$1 million of the tourism body's resources for the coming fiscal year, which starts in Oct. 1, 2016.

He added that such decision would be contradicting the aims and goals of the MVA.

See MVA on Page 4

Cuban, 21 others are newest US citizens



U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona and National Park Service-American Memorial Park acting chief ranger Jayson Tinney join the 15 of the 22 newest U.S. citizens in a group photo at the AMP shortly after the naturalization ceremony yesterday.
FERDIE DE LA TORRE

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

For Cuban Gabriel Santana Jr., 27, obtaining U.S. citizenship means he can now call himself an American and can call the United States his home.

Santana said he and his family came to Miami, Florida when he was only 9 years old.

Santana arrived on Saipan in July 2015 to work as a table games supervisor at the Best Sunshine International, Ltd. temporary casino Best Sunshine Live.

"So I'm very, very happy," he said on acquiring his citizenship.

As a U.S. citizen now, Santana said he is not afraid what might happen to

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INSIDE



LOCAL

DFS Saipan, in collaboration with the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, is hosting an art exhibit featuring the Japanese-styled woodblock portraits made by Paul Jacoulet.

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NATION

A suspicious device found in a trash can near a New Jersey train station exploded early Monday as a bomb squad was attempting to disarm it with a robot officials said.

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ASIA

A Norwegian man freed by militants after a year of jungle captivity in the southern Philippines described the ordeal Sunday as "devastating."

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Local

Justices hear issue whether nothing bars Tinian delegation from amending casino law

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The CNMI Supreme Court heard yesterday the appeal from the Superior Court's ruling that Article 21 of the NMI Constitution does not bar the Tinian and Aguiguan Delegation from amending the revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act.

The high court justices also heard the issue whether the term of each member of the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission is calculated on a fixed calendar basis or begins when each member assumes office.

After hearing the arguments, Associate Justice John A. Manglona and Justices Pro Tem Robert J. Torres Jr. and Katherine A. Maraman placed the matter under advisement.

Attorney Joseph E. Horey argued for plaintiffs-appellants former TCGCC executive director Lucia L. Blanco-Maratita and former TCGCC inspector Lisa-Marie B. Aguon.

Attorney Matthew T. Gregory argued for defendants-appellees Tinian Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas, Tinian municipal treasurer Maria Barbara Borja, and the Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan.

TCGCC, Blanco-Maratita, and Aguon sued San Nicolas and then Tinian municipal treasurer Charlene M. Lizama over the mayor's refusal to pay them the salaries that TCGCC had increased in December 2014.

San Nicolas paid only the salary amount as allocated in the Budget Act.

Then-TCGCC chair Mathew Masga, vice chair Bernadita Palacios, and com-

missioner Lydia Barcinas intervened in the lawsuit after the mayor asserted that their terms had already expired and that he would appoint three new commissioners.

In November 2015, then-Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman ruled that Article 21 of the CNMI Constitution does not bar the Tinian Delegation from amending the revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act.

Wiseman cited Article 21 that states, "Gambling is prohibited in the Northern Marianas Islands except as provided by Commonwealth law or established through initiative in the Commonwealth or in any senatorial district."

Wiseman denied TCGCC's motion that requested the court to declare invalid three local laws: Tinian Local Law 14-1, Tinian Local Law 18-5, and sections of the Tinian Local Ordinance 18-3.

Local Law 14-1 amended the revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act by enacting provisions, "to regulate the building and licensing of a hotel-casino in phases, to authorize and regulate the employment in the casino of persons over the age of 18 years; to reduce the casino license application fee, to reduce the penalties for fees and taxes, to authorize the TCGCS to waive or defer payment of such penalties, to permit and regulate credit wages; and for other purposes."

Tinian Local Law 18-5 amended the revised Tinian Casino Gaming Contract Act by enacting provisions, "for the purpose of updating the casino gambling tax to adapt to Asian-style gaming and to boost the Asian 'high roller'

gaming market."

A section of Tinian Local Ordinance 18-3, the Tinian Municipal Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2015, states that "no funds shall be programmed from personnel and non-personnel accounts to other personnel accounts to increase any salary from its current level..."

Another section of Tinian Local Ordinance 18-3 states that "no position or FTE pay level approved by this Act shall be increased and the funds appropriated shall not be reprogrammed to increase any pay level..."

The other section of Tinian Local Ordinance 18-3 states that "notwithstanding any law to the contrary and except as provided for in section (b) of this section, the funds appropriated pursuant to this Act shall not be used to increase the salary of any employee or any position from its current level or new level as set forth and appropriated by this Act."

In December 2015, Wiseman issued an order that disagrees with TCGCC's position that under the plain language of a section of the Casino Act, where a commissioner is confirmed, his or her term runs from the date of confirmation, as opposed to staggered fixed terms.

Wiseman ruled that Section 5 of the Casino Act provides for a formal staggering system or that each of the commissioner's term should run from the date of appointment for the first set of commissioners.

In opposing TCGCC's argument, the Tinian government's position is that each of the commissioner's term should run from March 30, 1990, the date of appointment

for the first set of commissioners, under a formal staggering scheme.

Blanco-Maratita and Aguon then appealed to the CNMI Supreme Court from Wiseman's ruling. They asked the high court to reverse Wiseman's decisions.

In Blanco-Maratita's and Aguon's brief, Horey said this is an action seeking to uphold the integrity of the popularly-enacted Revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act, and the independence of TCGCC.

Horey said in recent years, the Tinian Legislative Delegation has become increasingly assertive in acting on its own perceived right to amend the Casino Act.

Horey said at the same time, the Tinian mayor has adopted and acted upon a new interpretation of the terms of commissioners, which would allow him to more rapidly replace incumbent commissioners with his own appointees.

Horey asked the high court to review and invalidate the encroachments by the mayor and the delegation.

Horey said all three local laws at issue on this appeal are unconstitutional and invalid.

He asserted that under Article 21 of the CNMI Constitution, local laws are constitutionally incapable of amending a gambling law.

Horey said the challenged provisions of Tinian Local Ordinance 18-3 are unconstitutional for the further reason that they violate the principle of separation of powers.

In San Nicolas, Borja, and the Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan's opposition, Gregory asked the high court to uphold Wiseman's decision.

Gregory said Blanco-

Maratita and Aguon lack standing to raise issues relating to the terms of commissioners. He said only the commissioners have standing to raise this issue or the TCGCC.

Gregory said members of the public have no standing to seek review of statutes or local laws "without injury in fact."

He said if the high court feels the need to arrive at a decision or the merits, the high court should find that the three local laws at issue be held upheld as valid exercises of appropriation of power of the Tinian Delegation, and the Local Law At, which allows for the amendment of local initiatives.

Gregory said Article 21 of the CNMI Constitution does not prevent the passage of local laws that would amend or modify a local initiative.

"While gaming can only be established by the people via a local initiative, it may be amended by local law," he said.

Gregory said nothing in the constitution or laws of the CNMI prohibit such an amendment and the high court should not imply such a prohibition; especially when it is directly contradicted by Commonwealth law through Article 2 section 6 of the CNMI Constitution and the Local Law Act of 1983.

Hocog signs Tinian local bill

By **JON PEREZ**
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REPORTER

Acting governor Victor B. Hocog signed yesterday House Local Bill 19-67 that would appropriate \$2 million to Tinian and Aguiguan. HLB 19-67 for fiscal year 2017, introduced by Rep. Edwin P. Aldan (Ind-Tinian), is now Tinian Local Law 19-14.

Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider is the local delegation chairman with senators Francisco M. Borja—the current 19th Senate president—and Francisco Q. Cruz as the other members aside from Aldan.

Hocog signed the law as Gov. Ralph DLG Torres just arrived yesterday after successive official trips to Alaska, to meet with Republican Sen. Lisa Murkowski, and Washington, D.C. to testify in an oversight hearing that aims to review the economic impact of the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker nonimmigrant visa program, which ends in 2019.

The funds under TLL 19-14 are specifically allotted to the Second Senatorial District of the CNMI that was under Public Law 18-56. The Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation passed HLB 19-67 last Sept. 9 after receiving public comments from the Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan Mayor's Office.

The TALD, based on the law, has allocated \$1.1 million to restore the 25 percent retirement cut made for the retirees and survivors from the Second Senatorial District that were either residing in or outside Tinian under the Department of Finance secretary's expenditure authority.

The Finance secretary, after the 2017 fiscal year, would give an accounting of the ac-

tual amount that was paid out for the 25 percent retirement cut restoration.

Another \$485,000 is allocated for the second annual payment of an outstanding loan of \$1,349,367.96 from the Marianas Public Land Trust. A 5-percent interest for the judgment Payment Installment Agreement, for the U.S. vs. Borja case, was included.

The remaining \$415,000 is to support the programs and activities in the Second Senatorial District with \$205,000 funding the Office of the Mayor, the Tinian Municipal Treasurer, and the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission.

The Tinian Municipal Scholarship would get \$60,000 while \$50,000 is for the monthly subsistence allowance of \$200 each for 250 Tinian patients that are undergoing dialysis, and those who are suffering from cancer, multiple sclerosis, debilitating epilepsy seizure disorder, dermatomyositis, arrhythmia, hemophiliac, and post cerebral vascular accident.

Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson is the one authorized to release the \$1,585,000 needed to pay the 25 percent retirement cut restoration and MPLT.

Tinian and Aguiguan Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas will distribute the \$255,000 to the three offices—Mayor's Office, Municipal Treasurer, and TCGCC—and the allowances of the Tinian patients while the TMS board is the expenditure authority for the remaining \$50,000.

The funds will be transferred to an account set up by the Tinian Municipal Treasurer whose head will then control the disbursement of the money appropriated under TLL 19-14.



ASK THE PANEL

A panel discussion was conducted during the first ever 2016 CNMI Business and Finance Conference last Thursday in the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort. From left, Bank of Guam VP Credit Officer Mike Naholowaa, CPA Dora Guerrero, Commonwealth Development Authority executive director Manny Sablan, and Burger, Comer, Magliari LLC CPA managing partner of Dave Burger.

ERWIN ENCINARES

BECQ, BSI agree to settlement of enforcement actions

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. has paid \$65,000 and will undertake a supplemental enforcement project for up to \$145,000 to protect Saipan's lagoon in a settlement with the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality.

BECQ, with the assistance of the Office of Attorney General, is charged with investigating and enforcing environmental violations to ensure a clean and healthful environment. The settlement is a result of BECQ citing Best Sunshine several times for unpermitted discharges of wastewater—from its property during the construction of the Grand

Mariana Casino and Resort project. The orders required Best Sunshine to cease and desist further discharges and fined Best Sunshine \$210,000 for the alleged violations.

Under BECQ's major siting process, Best Sunshine is improving the CNMI's infrastructure in Garapan, which will be turned over to the Department of Public Works once completed.

According to Fran Castro, director of the Division of Coastal Resource Management, "Our permitting and enforcement process is aimed to ensure negative impacts to the environment

are avoided, minimized, and mitigated. We want to support sustainable development and protect natural resources in the CNMI."

Improvements include the installation of a storm water filter, known as a Continuous

Defective Separation Unit. The off-site CDS installation is anticipated to greatly improve the quality of water exiting the Dai-Ichi ditch entering the Saipan Lagoon by removing large debris and filtering sediment and other pollutants.

Alien charged for allegedly misrepresenting he's entering CNMI for vacation

An alien was charged in federal court for attempting to enter the U.S. by misrepresenting that he was entering the CNMI for purposes of vacation.

The information charged Yue Qiu with one count of illegal entry.

Qiu was summoned to appear in the U.S. District Court for the NMI today, Tuesday, at 9am. The court appointed attorney Bruce Berline as counsel for the defendant.

A Homeland Security Investigations agent served the summon on the de-

fendant at HSI Office on Saipan on Thursday. Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona issued the summon shortly after the U.S. government filed the information.

According to the information, on Thursday, Sept. 15, Qiu, an alien, "attempted to enter and

well as to provide instructions from the manufacturer for the system, in addition, the agreement gives the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands continuing jurisdiction over the stipulated resolution to ensure that the OAG can enforce the agreement. (PR)

obtained entry into the U.S. by a willfully false and misleading representation."

Qiu allegedly misrepresented that he was entering the CNMI for purposes of vacation.

No other details were provided in the information. (Ferdie de la Torre)



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Man gets 6-month prison term for ‘ice’ possession

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja has slapped a six-month prison term against a man for possession of methamphetamine or “ice” on Tinian.

In a written order issued yesterday, Naraja gave defendant Michael Borja Evangelista credit of 23 days of time served.

Naraja ordered the 29-year-old Evangelista to surrender to the Tinian Department of Public Safety on Oct. 17, 2016 at 9am.

Naraja directed Tinian DPS to then bring Evangelista to the Department of Corrections on Saipan to start serving the prison term.

The defendant’s release date

is March 25, 2017 at 9am.

The judge ordered Evangelista to pay a \$2,000 fine and \$100 in court assessment fee.

A review hearing will be held on July 14, 2017 at the Tinian Superior Court.

Evangelista signed a plea deal with the government. He pleaded guilty to illegal possession of a controlled substance

during a hearing at the Tinian Superior Court last Sept. 9.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, Evangelista unlawfully possessed a gram or less of methamphetamine on Tinian last Jan. 6.

Assistant public defender Michael Sato is counsel for Evangelista. Assistant attor-

ney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government.

Evangelista was among seven persons arrested during anti-drug operation led by Tinian DPS director John Santos last February.

Police said during a controlled buy operation last Jan. 6, their informant managed to purchase \$50 worth

of “ice” from Evangelista, Kyle San Nicolas Cepeda, and Frank Mendiola in front of Poker Club.

Cepeda recently pleaded guilty to illegal possession of controlled substance and was sentenced to six months imprisonment, with credit of six months of time served. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

CUBAN

From Page 1

him in the future—being sent back to a country he barely knows.

“I really don’t know my country back home. So I had the realization one day what will happen if I get sent back there. So right now it makes me feel like I am an American. This is my home. This is it,” Santana said.

For Russian ballerina Anna Glushko Eagle-Oden, obtaining U.S. citizenship after living in the CNMI for 17 years is a “great journey.”

Anna Eagle-Oden said it’s a milestone for her, her husband, and her family.

“It’s great to realize that I am now a citizen of the United

States,” she said, recalling that she first arrived in the CNMI in December 1999 when she worked at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino.

Anna Eagle-Oden said it feels great to be a citizen of the greatest democratic country, where people’s rights are protected.

She said being a U.S. citizen brings great opportunity.

For Antonio Santos Romero Sr., who hails from Paranaque, Philippines, obtaining U.S. citizenship at the ripe old age of 79 is a fulfillment of his dreams.

Romero said Saipan is his home together with his children.

His eldest of four children was the one who petitioned him. The three other children are all green card holders.

Romero first came to Saipan in 1988 where he worked as an assistant cook for Dai-Ichi Hotel, which is now called Fiesta Resort & Spa.

Romero’s wife, Angelita, 79, from the Philippines, also obtained U.S. citizenship last July.

Santana, Anna Eagle-Oden, and Romero were among the 22 who took oath as newest U.S. citizens during a naturalization ceremony held yesterday at the American Memorial Park’s Visitor’s Center’s Theater in Garapan.

Most of the newest citizens are from the Philippines and the rest are from five other countries—Cuba, Japan, China, Russia, and Thailand.

The ceremony was held at the American Memorial Park’s Visitor Center’s The-

ater because it is one of 412 parks that is part of the U.S. National Park Service.

The U.S. National Park Service celebrated its 100th birthday last Aug. 16.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona presided over the ceremony.

Immigration Services Officer Shelia Kely moved to accept the new citizens.

National Park Service-American Memorial Park acting chief ranger Jayson Tinney, who served as the guest speaker at the ceremony, said the newest citizens will have the opportunity to also visit the newest park in the national park system before the rest of the world.

“Looks like Rota will be able to obtain the National

Park Designation,” Tinney disclosed.

Tinney said when visiting the parks, the citizens will be reminded that they all have the duty to be stewards in helping to protect the natural, historical, and cultural resources in all parks for another 100 years.

Tinney said each of the national parks showcase the country’s majestic natural resources and landscapes, or tell the story of historical events or pay tribute to great men and women who are shining examples of great citizenship.

At the American Memorial Park, he said, people remember the ultimate sacrifice of the young soldiers and the Chamorro and Carolinian men, women, and children caught in the battle 72 years ago.

Tinney said as U.S. citi-

zens they will be free to travel across the country and that he encourage them to visit the other parks and take in the significance of historical places.

Aside from Santana, Anna Eagle-Oden, and Romero, the other newest citizens are Angelita Dalosa Angui, Antonina Banes, Mary Joan Cabrera Boongaling, Marilyn Pio Buzzutto, Elizabeth Velasquez Castro, Lifen Lu Delos Reyes, Marinette Finuliar Duenas, Zosimo Tuba Gonzaga Jr., Marites Dela Cruz Iriarte, Edgar Golino Labios, Teresita Pascual Llanes, Bernadino Siclat Montague, Taro Okawa, Rosalina Miranda Rohringer, Pronphun Jindawong Sablan, Marilyn Sabucido Samphere, Emma Sun Mason, Guihua Wang, and Yuyan Wang.

MVA

From Page 1

“The MVA is opposed to the cuts being proposed by the Senate version of the FY ’17 budget. It would totally hamper our efforts to market the CNMI overseas. It will hamper our efforts to provide activities for tourists to do here while in the CNMI. Such as the Taste of the Marianas, sporting events, marathons, Hell of the Marianas, and more.”

More importantly, Concepcion thinks that rekin-

dling the lost spark between Japan and the CNMI would be set back because of the proposed budget cut.

“The revitalization of the Japan market is going to take a hit because of this. This \$1.59 million is a lot of money that we need. We have airline support programs that we are proposing and we are not able to fund it if they take away this money. And Japan has been a big focus for the Legislature, so we are concerned that them taking this away shows that maybe the Japan market isn’t as important as they say it is.”

Concepcion strongly believes that the MVA budget does not even have to be cut by that much. He pointed out that many of the budget allotments of the new bill could be funded by grants instead of the MVA budget, such as the new fire truck for the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, the redesigning of roadways for the Department of Public Works, and the new vehicles for Rota’s Department of Public Safety.

Board chair Marian Aldan-Pierce also expressed disapproval for the possible budget

cut not only because it shortchanges the MVA, but because it’s not been put into law.

“Some of the things that they are allotting for the modification are actually things that the MVA probably would have funded,” she said.

Pierce pointed out that the MVA is on board anything that has to do with the improvement of tourism in general. She further reiterated that passing such budget cuts into law is purposeless.

“It’s unnecessary. It’s not like we’re sitting on 100 percent of the Hotel Occupancy

Tax. The board is very cognizant that we are one tourism industry, and probably a lot of the functions, a lot of the things that they want to fund are part of tourism industry, which is why we should be given an opportunity to make those decisions as a board member, and not necessarily make them into a law.”

Pierce states that the MVA is fully aware of what its duties and responsibilities are, and thinks that the budget cut would be ultimately detrimental to the already well-performing MVA.

“Give us a chance to do what we are mandated by law to do. Five of the board members that were here were appointed by the governor, so we’re very cognizant of our fiduciary responsibility; this is something that we do not take lightly.”

Talks about budget allocation for FY 2017 are still under way with the Senate and the House of Representatives going into bicameral conference committee after they rejected each of their versions of next fiscal year’s general appropriations bill.

FUNDING

From Page 1

and Means committee chair, was an original member of the House panel but went on leave following the death of his mother.

Rep. Felicidad T. Ogumoro (R-Saipan), the committee vice chair, replaced Sablan and she will be joining House vice Speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) and from the minority bloc Rep. Anthony T. Benavente (Ind-Saipan).

Deleon Guerrero met with Ogumoro and Benavente yesterday but did not give any details of what was discussed.

Senate Fiscal Affairs committee chair Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), Senate vice president Sen. Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), and floor

leader Steve K. Mesngon (R-Rota) are the Senate panel members.

They are set to meet anytime this week and they have 10 days or eight working days left to reach an agreement on the proposed budget and avert a government shutdown. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres must sign the bill before the end of FY 2016 on Sept. 30, 2016.

Sablan, after last Saturday’s emergency session, said the business gross revenue tax is another funding source aside from the \$142,209,601 proposed Fiscal Year 2017 budget given by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

“This budget is not the only source of funds for the government for FY 2017. We have yet to work on the BGRT and that would be another source of revenue to fall back on in the form of supplemental bud-

get,” said Sablan.

He added that in last year’s budget, which also went to a bicameral conference meeting, they had just agreed to reallocate roughly \$300,000 to \$400,000. “This budget we had a little bit more, so we decided to take care of the long-term obligations for Rota employees and put in additional funding for across the board salary increases. Those are long term.”

“That is what we’re trying to get across. When we see this new revenue, we must still maintain some sort of priority and don’t lose the fact for years we build up obligations because of a weak economy. Back then, we didn’t have the revenue and we weren’t able to pay some of the government obligations. So, we got to make sure that we go back and prioritize that.”

MVA funding

The Senate version cut MVA’s funds by \$1.590 million and assigned it to other agencies and departments with the Saipan Mayor’s Office and the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services getting the huge chunk with \$400,000 each.

The Saipan Mayor’s Office would use the money for its island-wide cleanup and beautification projects, and for its foreign students exchange program, while DFEMS aims to procure another fire truck.

The Department of Public Works and the Commonwealth Museum will be getting \$300,000 each, while the Division of Parks and Recreation, under the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, is assigned \$100,000. The Rota Department of Public Safety gets \$90,000.

The \$300,000 for DPW is for redesigning the roads around Paseo de Marianas in order to solve parking congestion, while the Commonwealth Museum would use the money for repairs and renovation.

The Division of Parks and Recreation’s allotment is for the cleanup and beautification of all the parks, and tourist and recreational sites, while Rota DPS’ money is for buying two more vehicles for their services.

Sablan said the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation has been supporting the Saipan Mayor’s Office with local appropriations. “I’ve got a bill that I want to work with the MVA board, I think they are willing to work with the mayor.

“The current law, for MVA obligates 2 percent for Tinian and Rota but none for Saipan.

The bill is to add another 2 percent to that earmarking, so that we don’t need to keep going to MVA and try to always appropriate money out of their funds.”

He added that the Legislature must start thinking differently when it comes to MVA’s funds. “We can’t keep thinking that the MVA earmark is a surplus source of funds. We can’t keep thinking that they are unlimited source of funding every time somebody decides they needed money for something. We must stop that.”

“We got to work with the board. It is not like the board is saying that we want to keep everything. I think they have been doing an excellent job of sharing that revenue for each intended purpose, which is destination enhancement.”

IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASE AGAINST ROTA COP: Judge Camacho denies cop's motion to postpone trial

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday denied a motion to continue the Oct. 7, 2016 bench trial of George Ayuyu Barcinas, a Rota police officer facing domestic violence charges.

Camacho said the vacation plans of Barcinas' counsel, assistant public defender Tillman Clark, will have to be adjusted as it does not outweigh everyone's preparation and readiness to proceed with the bench trial.

Clark filed the motion to continue bench trial yesterday, or three weeks before trial citing various reasons, including that he is going on a vacation.

Camacho ordered that the bench trial currently set for Oct. 7 at 9am at the Rota Courthouse shall proceed.

The judge said the defense counsel has three weeks to prepare for the trial, or have someone in the Office of the Public Defender prepare for the trial.

At the pretrial hearing last Wednesday, Clark appeared as counsel for Barcinas, while assistant attorney general Shannon Foley came as counsel for the government.

Camacho said the parties informed the court that there was no issue as to the discovery, witnesses, and exhibits and are ready for trial.

Camacho said he then ordered the parties to inform their witnesses of the trial date and to make advance travel, hotel, and car reservations to avoid any delays.

In defendant's motion to continue, Clark said he is sole attorney for Barcinas for the entirety of this case and that he will be off-island for this date.

Clark said Barcinas has developed a strong attorney-client relationship with him and that the defendant will be prejudiced by having another attorney fill his spot on short notice.

The defense counsel said given that the Office of the Public Defender is currently short-staffed by one attorney, finding such coverage is more difficult than it might normally be.

Clark said there is a festival on Rota the weekend after the trial setting, which makes it exceedingly difficult to find accommodation than it might be on another date.

In denying the motion, Camacho noted that Oct. 7 is the regular Rota docket and as Clark handles the regular Rota docket he knows these dates.

"This is not a surprise as these dates are set well in advance," Camacho said.

The judge also noted that there is another bench trial currently set for Oct. 7 at 10:30am at the Rota Courthouse, involving alleged mis-

use of government vehicle.

Camacho said the defendant in that traffic case is also being represented by OPD.

Camacho pointed out that he has repeated on numerous hearings that cases on Rota are set well in advance because of the logistical challenges.

The judge said Clark is and was well aware of the

trial date.

Camacho said the court, staff, prosecution, and witnesses have all been preparing for the trial.

The Office of the Attorney General alleged that on June 5, 2015 on Rota, Barcinas pinned his wife to the ground and allegedly grabbed his wife's keys from her car's ignition

against her will preventing her from leaving his property.

Barcinas also allegedly used physical force to struggle with and prevent the victim from calling law enforcement after she informed him of her intention to do so.

The bench trial of the 35-year-old Barcinas on charges of assault and battery, disturbing the peace, and interfering with a domestic violence report was initially set for March 4, 2016.

Before the scheduled

bench trial could begin on March 4, Barcinas, through counsel Clark, orally moved to dismiss the case due to destruction of evidence.

Barcinas later filed his motion to dismiss for destruction of evidence. The government opposed the motion.

Camacho then vacated the bench trial and set an evidentiary hearing and motion hearing at the Rota Courthouse last June 20. The judge subsequently denied the motion to dismiss.



Camacho

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Air Assault Training on Tinian set today

This is to advise the people of Tinian and the general public, that the military, as part of their exercise will be conducting an Air Assault Training today, Sept. 20, from 2pm to 12 midnight. The west side of runway Able and Baker at

Northfield as well as the Japanese Air Ops Buildings will be blocked off during the exercise. Access to the bunkers will be available all day from the east side of runway Able and up through the central taxiway. (PR)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy 89th birthday, my tawaw Teodoro Selepeo. I love you always, Lillysina and family.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy birthday Nina Lovena Dela Cruz. Love, the family.

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CULTURAL HERITAGE MONTH

Local food featured in Cuisine Night

Cultural Heritage Month activities continued with the Carolinian Affairs Office promoting traditional dishes during Cuisine Night last Saturday at the Carolinian Utt.

First lady Diann Torres shared how great the night was especially with all the tasty family recipes.

"It's awesome. I see a lot of really good family recipes and I'm sure everybody put out their best menus from their families. They were delicious," said Torres.

Torres also mentioned the aesthetics of one of the food items presented, papaya turnovers. "This arroz caldo is really good and the papaya turnovers are very cute."

Torres, however, was quick to follow that no one is above her mother when it came to papaya turnovers.

"My mom makes the best turnovers—she's really good at it," shared Torres enthusiastically. "She taught me several times and I learned only to forget it because I don't have the time to make it."

Bobby Iginoef presented breadfruit soup, a thick soup cooked in coconut milk that could be varying in flavor, depending on the ripeness of the breadfruit. Usually sweet, the breadfruit soup is made by



ERWIN ENCINARES

Bobby Iginoef carefully stirs the breadfruit soup during her presentation during Cuisine Night at the Carolinian Utt last Saturday.

first boiling the breadfruit and once soft enough, mashed together.

The coconut milk is then added onto the mashed breadfruit and then condensed, by means of lowering to medium heat to prevent burning the coconut milk and constantly stirring until the soup gradually thickens.

Mariana Ebilanie, from Yap, showcased her own take on a popular coconut candy.

Substituting fermented coconut juice with sugar, Ebilanie first caramelized the sugar until it becomes syrup. By adding equal amounts of water to equal amounts of sugar, Ebilanie darkens the sugar before adding water. As the syrup simmers, Ebilanie adds more sugar, to make the candy harder. Ebilanie states that for a softer candy, no sugar needs to be added. She then proceeded to add the dried coconut.

After a few minutes of mixing, the candy is ready for shaping using a banana leaf.

Also showcased but not demonstrated in Cuisine Night were tamales, apigigi, papaya turnovers, titiyas, bweimai, lolesl kalamasa, spinach soup, and chirakilis soup.

Cultural Heritage Month

is a month-long celebration of the many cultures in the CNMI. The next event would be the 13 Fishermen's 30th memorial celebration at the 13 Fishermen Monument along Beach Road.

Gus Kaipat and Gus Litulumar provided the entertainment for the evening.



ERWIN ENCINARES

Entertainers Gus Kaipat, left, and Gus Litulumar pose for a photo.



First lady Diann Torres poses for a picture with the 4-year-old Tristan Torres.

ERWIN ENCINARES



INVITATION TO BID ITB16-MOT-136 Renovation of Tinian Delegation Building

Mayor of Tinian Joey Patrick San Nicolas is soliciting sealed bids for the Renovation of Tinian Delegation Building (Formerly Tinian NMC Building). The project package will be available on Monday, September 12, 2016 at the Governor's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A \$100.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference and site inspection for this project on Thursday, September 22, 2016, 10:00AM ChST at the project site, San Jose, Tinian. Bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the project location and current condition. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM ChST, Monday, October 3, 2016 to the CIP Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408. All responses to questions should be shared with other prospective contractors. Non-representation of bidders in the pre-bid conference will be considered non-responsive and his/her bid shall not be considered.

Sealed bids must be marked "ITB16-MOT-136, Renovation of Tinian Delegation Building". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 9:00 AM ChST Tuesday, October 11, 2016. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:00 AM ChST Tuesday, October 11, 2016 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than Tuesday, October 11, 2016 and must be received no later than Tuesday, October 18, 2016 ChST. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 AM ChST Tuesday, October 18, 2016. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 AM ChST Tuesday October 11, 2016.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- Cash
- US Government Securities
- Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Fifty (150) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) Two Hundred dollars (\$200.00) per day, or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by One Hundred Fifty (150) calendar days, the contract time and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Joey Patrick San Nicolas,
Tinian Mayor

Herman S. Sablan, Director
CNMI Procurement & Supply

Saipan Cares for Animals opens Community Outreach Center

Saipan's animal welfare group, Saipan Cares for Animals, officially opened the Saipan Cares for Animals Community Outreach Center last week. The facility, located in As Gonno, is a donated property where the group is offering low-cost, basic animal services to the residents of Saipan.

SCA has been in existence for a year and a half, operating with the Saipan Mayor's Office and also running mobile clinics. A Saipan resident was encouraged by the group's work, and offered a property as a way of advancing the care for animals on Saipan.

"We are so pleased to open the Outreach Center," said Beth Pliscou, president of SCA. "Now, island residents have a facility where they can bring their animals for basic, low-cost services such as vaccinations and de-worming, to

make sure that their animals are healthy, happy members of their families for years to come."

"This isn't an animal hospital," add Yumiko Brundidge, a volunteer with SCA. "We don't have a veterinarian yet, although that is our long-term goal. We have received Vet Tech training from Humane Society International so as to competently assist animals in maintaining good health. We are able to make a difference in animal's lives!"

Also at the Outreach Center are a limited number of dogs/puppies and cats/kittens available for adoption.

Pliscou adds, "All of our animals leave our facility vaccinated, de-wormed, in good health and ready to become loving members of your families!"

The outreach center is also always looking for volunteers, and donations are always ap-

preciated.

"We are running this facility completely on our own, with no federal assistance or outside funding," said Jason Hudy from SCA.

Opening the facility is a big task and any monetary donations go toward helping us keep animal care at a very low cost that any responsible pet owner should be able to afford, so donations are greatly appreciated! And as always, volunteers are more than welcome to clean and love our animals!

To see the services available to the public, or to contact SCA, please visit www.SaipanCaresforAnimals.com. If you are looking to donate, volunteer or adopt, you can also visit Saipan Cares for Animals on Facebook. The phone number to SCA, recently donated by IT&E (thank you for your support!) is 670-285-5448. (PR)

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Paul Jacoulet art exhibit opens at T Galleria

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

DFS Saipan, in collaboration with the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, is hosting an art exhibit featuring the Japanese-styled wood-block portraits made by Paul Jacoulet, a French artist who visited Saipan and other Micronesian islands during 1920 to 1930. The exhibit started on Sept. 15 at the T Galleria in Garapan.

DFS Saipan general manager Milan Rabold shared that the event is the very first exhibition hosted by the luxury brand store. A special stage for the portraits were constructed just for the event, with plans for holding other art exhibitions in the future.

"This is the first time we have converted our store into an exhibition space. We call it the white box. We are using it today to exhibit Paul Jacoulet," he said.

Rabold also shared that DFS is also exerting efforts to attract tourists who shop at the T Galleria to look at the art exhibit, as the tourists are curious about the CNMI.

"We're trying to further the local arts and history and show our customers what the islands are all about. That is what the customers want today, they want to know about the place, history, and culture," he said. "It was the Northern Marianas Humanities Council that came to us and offered this exhibition to us. We thought



The Paul Jacoulet art exhibit in the white box at DFS last Sept. 16.



Milan Rabold says a few words during the Paul Jacoulet art exhibit opening.

it was a great idea and we were happy to work with them and make it possible."

Rabold said that the paintings are portraits of real people that were friends with Paul Jacoulet during his stay in the CNMI. "The paintings are actually portraits of local people, people that Jacoulet met when he was living here on Saipan. Today, you have the descen-

dants of the people here at the store."

DFS thinks that it is a good time to feature Paul Jacoulet at DFS, because of the Korean holiday known as Chuseok, which is the Korean version of Thanksgiving.

"We as DFS want to help and promote the culture and history of Saipan. We have a lot of tourists that come



Paul Jacoulet, second top left, poses with Gregorio San Nicolas Sablan, second top right. Bottom from right, Rita Sablan-Diaz, Mathilde Sablan-Diaz, and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's father (the baby).



Frances Arriola poses with the original portrait of Rita Sablan-Diaz in hand.

through. Right now it is Chuseok, the Korean holiday so there is a lot of people on island. Yesterday there were eight flights that arrived from Korea. We just want to do our part to show our guests here on Saipan what this island is really about," said Rabold.

Northern Marianas Housing Corp. corporate director Jesse Palacios' grand aunts Mathil-

de Sablan-Diaz and Rita Sablan-Diaz were amongst those who were featured in the art exhibit. "It's significant, really. It's really nice to see family members portrayed here. When I was young, I see my two grandma's sisters all the time growing up but I've never really seen them from this [perspective] when they were younger. It kind of brings back

memories," said Palacios. "They look like they're still alive. The paintings are very magnificent."

Joan Gill, an enthusiastic Paul Jacoulet fan was also present during the exhibit. "My husband (Peter Gill) is an enthusiastic Jacoulet collector, and I have been exposed to many of his works and we've seen the entire collection at Pasadena, which was amazing. It's just thrilling to see it here in Micronesia," said Gill.

She shared that the process of Japanese wood block printing was very tedious, and that Jacoulet created unique paintings because the techniques were usually used for painting landscapes by the Japanese. "The more people that are exposed, the better. It's a fabulous exhibit of local beauty, and the actual technique of making these Japanese wood block paintings is incredible, so just the artistic value is exceptional and the depiction of the local women here on Saipan is just gorgeous."

Many descendants of the featured families flocked to the event. Among them was Frances Arriola, Palacios' aunt. Although she refused to be interviewed, she still posed for a picture while holding the original copy of Rita Sablan-Diaz's portrait. Rita and Mathilde Sablan-Diaz are Arriola's aunts.

The Jacoulet art exhibit will be open to the public at the T Galleria until Oct. 15.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

September 20, 2000

Gov't calms fears on tourists' safety

The government has taken steps to protect tourists and visitors to the Northern Marianas following the issuance of a travel advisory by Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs which has listed the islands as unsafe destination for its travelers.

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio disclosed yesterday he has been meeting with officials of various departments and agencies, including immigration and public safety, in response to the advisory which was posted on the website of the foreign ministry. The meetings began last week after learning about the advisory cautioning Japanese citizens against traveling to the CNMI due to rampant crimes of robbery, murder, drug use and smuggling on the islands, particularly Saipan and Rota. Japan is the Commonwealth's biggest source of tourists and investors, while the tourism industry is the backbone of the local economy.

Committee created to deal with crimes

Government and private sectors yesterday moved swiftly to prevent any adverse effect which the travel advisory issued by the Japanese government may cause on the tourism economy. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan asked its citizens to take precautionary measures when traveling to the Northern Marianas due to the increasing crimes of robbery, murder, drug use and smuggling. According to Dave M. Sablan, board chair of the Marianas Visitors Authority, an ad hoc committee was

created to implement corrective measures and gather information on crime statistics which the CNMI government will provide to the Japanese Consulate. The Japan Consulate defended the travel advisory issued on Saipan saying the website covers many travel destinations all over the world.

September 20, 2004

DPH wants to impose 90-day NCLEX for scholars

The Department of Public Health wants to require would-be nursing scholars to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses within 90 days after their program completion. In a position paper on the nursing scholarship bill submitted to the House Committee on Education, DPH Secretary James U. Hofschneider said the nursing scholarship recipients must agree to take the NCLEX "within 90 days of completion" of either an associate or bachelor's degree in nursing. Failure to pass the NCLEX within the period would be considered a default on their obligation and a cause for administrative action for repayment.

CDA: Go ahead with Pacific Gardenia receivership

Court appointment of a receiver for Pacific Gardenia Hotel can proceed despite the recent filing of bankruptcy by its owners, according to the Commonwealth Development Authority. CDA legal counsel F. Matthew Smith said in a brief filed in the Superior Court Friday that only the assets of defendant's Sy's Corporation (dba Pacific Gardenia Hotel) are protected or covered by the bankruptcy automatic stay. As a general rule, he cited that an automatic stay issued under 28 U.S.C. section 362 "does not protect non-debtor parties or their property." In the Ninth Circuit, in particular, co-defendants cannot successfully argue that an automatic stay reaches their actions and property if they are not also debtor parties in bank-

ruptcy proceedings, Smith further said.

September 20, 2000

Gang violence, human trafficking, obscenity, are top US priorities

Besides its anti-terrorism efforts, gang violence, human trafficking, and obscenity and child pornography are President Bush's priorities in his second term, according to U.S. Attorney for Districts of Guam and the NMI Leonardo Rapadas. During the weekly meeting of the Saipan Rotary Club at the Hyatt Regency Saipan yesterday, Rapadas said the top priority of the U.S. government remains today is its efforts to protect its citizens, liberty and their way of life against terrorism. He said the United States Attorney's Office has made Project Safe Neighborhoods a tremendous success. The concept, he said, will be used in combating the prevalence of gang violence.

NMI to be dropped from HK route

In yet another body blow to the CNMI's tourism industry, Continental Airlines confirmed yesterday that it will be dropping Saipan from its Guam-Hong Kong route effective Nov. 7 this year, and suspending its jet service from Guam to Saipan beginning January 2006. Continental Airlines vice president for sales and marketing Walter Dias said in an interview yesterday that, instead of a Guam-Saipan-Hong Kong route, the airline will just make a direct Guam-Hong Kong flight. He said this is due to: * the relatively small traffic between Hong Kong and Saipan; * the implementation of a rigid Transportation Security Administration regulation requiring all Guam-bound passengers to get off with their baggage at the Saipan International Airport for full screening; and * the skyrocketing prices of fuel, which makes the Saipan stopover "just impractical." Dias said the major reason is that Hong Kong customers still prefer Guam over the CNMI.

UOG professor helps discover HK's oldest maritime artifact

University of Guam Associate professor of Anthropology Dr. Bill Jeffery recently helped discover and excavate Hong Kong's oldest maritime artifact—an anchor stock that dates back to China's Song Dynasty.

Jeffery and a team of about nine local divers from Hong Kong two years ago were surveying ceramics in the eastern part of Hong Kong's waters off the coast of Basalt Island when they stumbled upon the anchor stock—a crossbeam mounted to the top of an anchor.

Covered in barnacles, rocks, and other hard matter accumulated on the outer surface, the anchor stock dates back nearly 1,000 years and was excavated in July by Jeffery and the Hong Kong Underwater Heritage Group.

“For 2,000 years, ships would have been sailing through Hong Kong waters,” he said, rounding the southern tip of Hong Kong and sailing west into what is now called Guangzhou, which, many years ago, served as a trade

hub for the surrounding areas.

Located less than two miles away from the anchor stock site and sunken beneath 40 meters of water, Jeffery and the Hong Kong Underwater Heritage Group this summer also excavated a 6 ft.-long cast iron British cannon not older



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

An ancient Chinese anchor stock from the Song Dynasty was found submerged underwater near Basalt Island, Hong Kong. The stock was excavated in July by Dr. Bill Jeffery and the Hong Kong Underwater Heritage Group.



The ancient Chinese anchor stock is displayed at the Hong Kong Maritime Museum.

than a couple hundred years, Jeffery said.

Both artifacts are now housed at the Hong Kong Maritime Museum. Jeffery hopes that with these two new discoveries, the government and people of Hong Kong will invest more resources into underwater surveys in search of ancient artifacts sitting just a few feet from the shoreline.

“Archeology doesn't stop

at the waterline,” Jeffery said, noting the cultural significance of maritime artifacts waiting to be found just below the ocean's waves. “Not

much as been done to look for or survey for materials underwater so it's important to show Hong Kong that there are artifacts in the water. And with the

techniques and sophisticated technology, it's relatively easy to survey and excavate.”

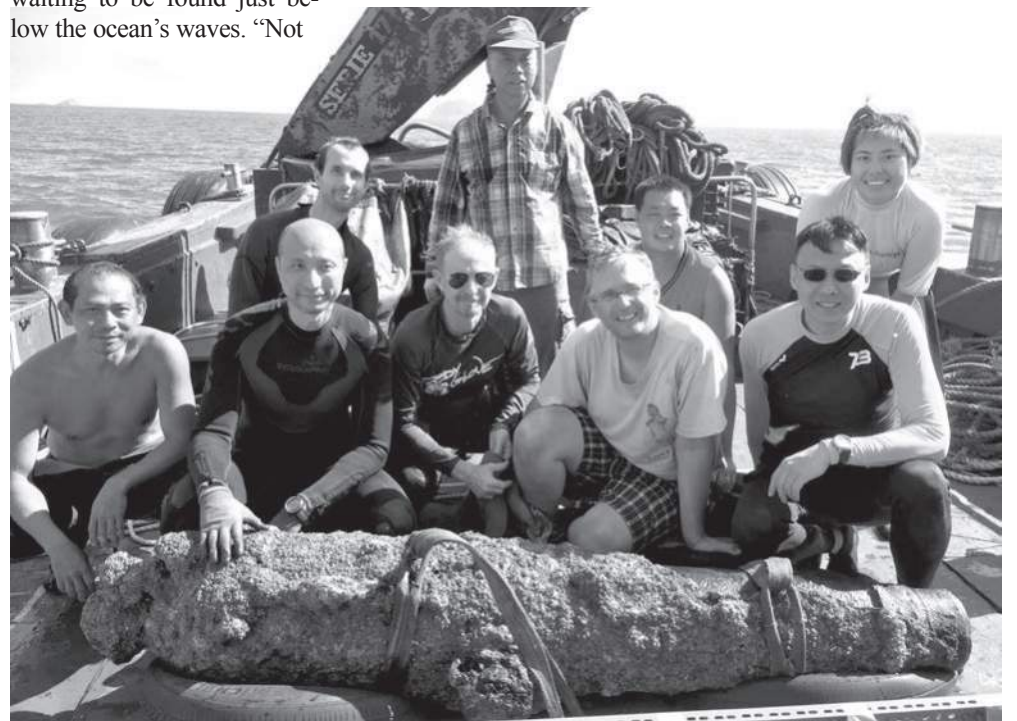
For more on this story, visit www.uog.edu/faculty. (PR)




Conservator Paul Harrison from the Hong Kong Maritime Museum chips away at the barnacles, rocks, and hard matter accumulated on the surface of a centuries-old 6 ft.-long cast iron British cannon which found off the coast of Hong Kong this summer.




Dr. Bill Jeffery, first from the left, stands with staff from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and Hong Kong maritime Museum with the ancient Chinese anchor stock.



Back row, from left to right: Guilhem Malfre, Mr. Leung, Wai Yuen, Vincent Tong, and Jamie Yeung. Front row, from left to right: Simon Lau, Rick Chan, Bill Jeffery, Paul Harrison, and Marco Li. Members of the Hong Kong Underwater Heritage Group pose with the British cannon found in Hong Kong's waters.



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Frank M. Rabaulman
Administrator

Frances A. Castro
Director

PUBLIC NOTICE

From the COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
of the CNMI's DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT


DATE: September 20, 2016

NOTICE: The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) Division of Coastal Resource Management (DCRM) is currently reviewing a federal consistency determination from the Department of the Navy (Navy) regarding the “proposed rule for Uniform National Discharge Standards for Vessels of Armed Forces Phase II Batch One”. As the Navy describes in their determination request, Clean Water Act section 312 requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Defense (DoD) to develop uniform national standards to control certain discharges “incident to the normal operation of a vessel of the Armed Forces into the navigable waters of the United States, the territorial seas, and the contiguous zone. The proposed discharge performance standards will reduce the adverse impacts associated with the discharges, stimulate the development of improved pollution control devices, and advance the development of environmental sound ships by the Armed Forces.”


Federal consistency is a provision of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) that requires federal actions that affect the coastal zone to be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of a coastal state's federally approved coastal management plan. More information on the Proposed Rule (79 F.R. 6117) and the federal consistency determination request can be found online at: <http://ow.ly/FpRB304kdGQ>

Comments on whether the project is consistent with the enforceable policies of the CNMI's coastal management program can be submitted to the Division of Coastal Resource Management at erinderrington@becq.gov.mp.

This public notice has been published for compliance with 15 CFR § 930.42. DCRM is soliciting public comments for fifteen (15) days, starting on September 20, 2016 and ending on October 05, 2016 in order to give the public a sufficient opportunity to develop and provide comments on whether the proposed project is consistent with management program enforceable policies and still allow DCRM to issue its concurrence or objection within the sixty (60) day response period. We welcome your feedback and thank you for your consideration.



COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION
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PUBLIC NOTICE


Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission (“Commission”), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled a meeting on Friday, September 23, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (Technology Room) in Susupe, Saipan.

The following Agenda will be discussed:


- PRELIMINARIES:**
 - Call to Order
 - Roll Call
 - Adoption of Agenda
- REPORTS:**
 - Report by the Chairman
 - Report by the Executive Director
- PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
- OLD BUSINESS:**
 - Minimum Bankroll Requirements
- NEW BUSINESS:**
 - Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC's (“IPI”) approval request for Chip and Plaque Designs and \$1 Million Dollar Denomination.
 - IPI's Request to extend Rolling Chip Cash & Complimentary Rebate Program.
 - Casino Service Provider – Regular License: Angel Playing Cards USA, Inc., (Playing Cards, Electronic Shoes, Maintenance of)
- EXECUTIVE SESSION:**
 - Report by the Legal Counsel
 - Commission Personnel Matters
- MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:**
 - Progress Report by Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC:
 - Other Miscellaneous Matters:
- ADJOURNMENT**

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day or more if necessary.

Juan M. Sablan
Chairman



Northern Marianas College
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS STATEMENTS FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES NMC SOQ 16-001

Northern Marianas College is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms to perform Project Management Services for work related to the planning, design and construction/renovation phases associated with NMC Capital Improvement Projects and ongoing Typhoon Soudelor Recovery efforts. The selected firm(s) will provide Project Management Services and other Professional and Technical Capacity Services as required for the completion of assigned NMC Capital Improvement Projects including the design and construction of a new multi-level building to house classrooms and direct student support programs on the As Terlaje, Saipan Campus.

The Request for Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) Package is available at NMC, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd floor. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for qualifications statement must be submitted in electronic or written form no later than 4:30 Pm, September 23, 2016 CST.

Interested firms shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies no later than 10:00am, **October 14, 2016, NMC Procurement & Property Management Office**, As Terlaje Campus, Saipan.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Overall PM experience in the Pacific area and especially the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Island; - 30 Points
- PM Experience related to Higher Education Campus Facilities; - 30 Points
- Level of proficiency in performing PM services promptly; and level of experience with local and federal regulations and requirements; - 20 Points
- Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal, if applicable; - 20 Points

Discussions may be conducted with selected firms regarding agreement requirements and technical approach and a selection made there, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required. An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified Firm or Company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the College. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all statement of professional qualification for any reason if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

/s/ Anita Camacho
Procurement Manager, NMC

/s/ David J. Attao
Interim President, NMC

A Land Grant Institution accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges and by The Senior Commission for Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges

Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Welcoming the next 10,000 Syrian refugees to the US

After a late-summer surge, the Obama administration has met its goal of admitting 10,000 Syrian refugees in 2016. The Republican House Freedom Caucus considers that 10,000 too many, preferring to stop resettling Syrians until the administration can “assure no terrorists or individuals with radical sympathies or views will be admitted.”

Such fears are largely misplaced. Few, if any, classes of travelers to the U.S. face greater scrutiny. Nevertheless, the process for admitting refugees from Syria can be tightened. And at least as important, the process of integrating them into American life can be improved.

To see how, it's worth revisiting who these newcomers are and how they have made it here. Three-quarters have come via the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which selected them from among the most vulnerable people languishing in refugee camps. Indeed, four-fifths of this year's arrivals have been women and children; nearly half are under 18. That said, the possibility remains that some of the rest might be Islamic State recruits such as those who have blended into the refugee masses flowing toward Europe.

But consider the months-long gauntlet they would have had to run — including face-to-face interviews with officers from the Department of Homeland Security, medical exams, screening through intelligence databases, and case referrals back in Washington. A terrorist leader looking to infiltrate operatives into the U.S. could no doubt find easier ways.

No screening process is foolproof, of course — especially, as FBI Director James Comey has pointed out, when you're dealing with people fleeing a war zone. Homeland Security needs more Arabic speakers to conduct interviews, and once refugees have arrived in the U.S., law enforcement and intelligence agencies could look harder for signs of radicalization and other trouble. The possibility that some newcomers might do harm exists among all immigrant groups, after all.

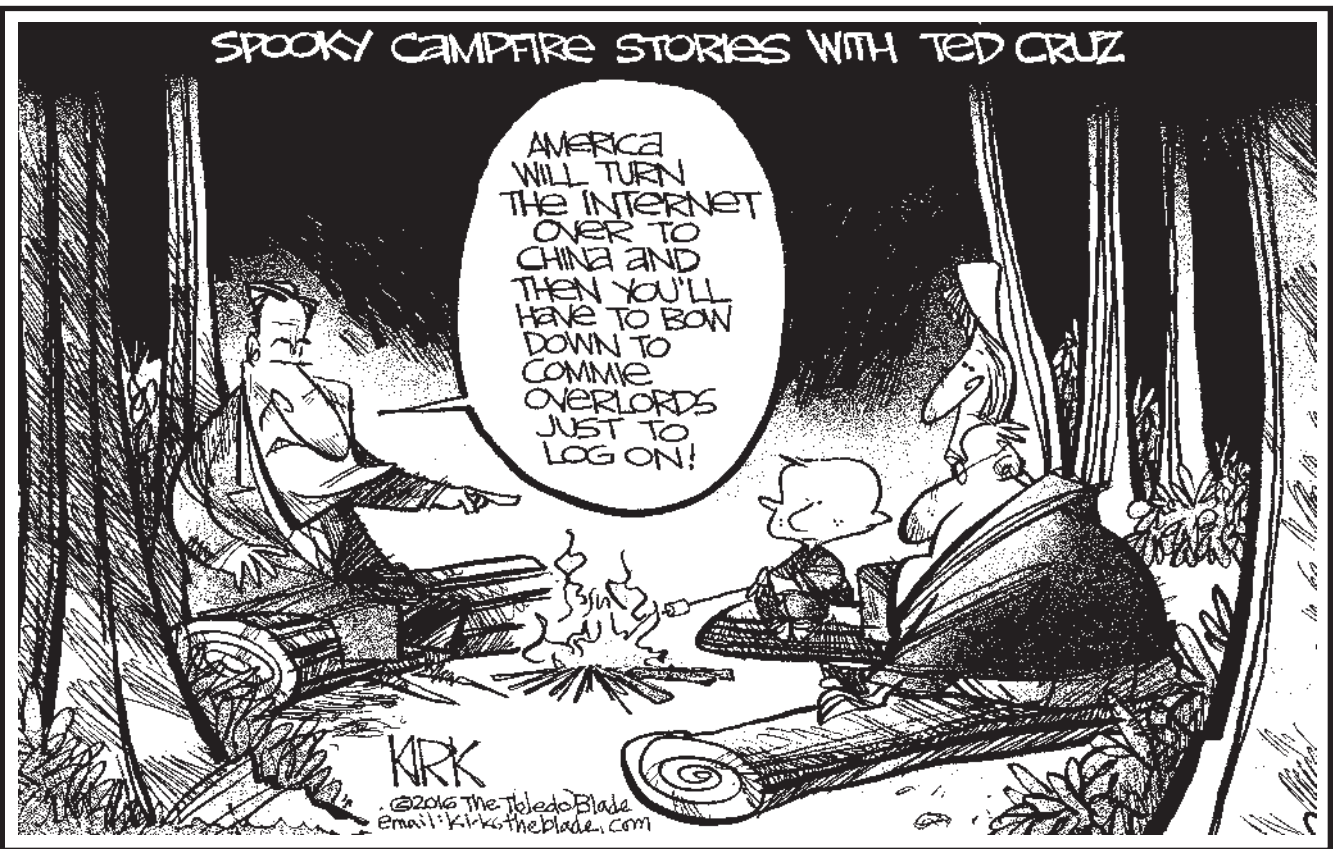
It's also essential that the U.S. ensure that all the newcomers are successfully integrated, especially with the nation increasingly polarized by their arrival. For starters, the State Department needs to step up its efforts to ensure that local stakeholders are consulted on resettlement targets.

The U.S. planned to resettle 85,000 refugees from around the world this fiscal year, up from 70,000 the previous year; Secretary of State John Kerry just announced that next year, the U.S. proposes to admit 110,000. But funding for refugee assistance hasn't kept up, in part because it's based on past admissions. Considering the traumas Syrians have experienced, especially the children, more support is needed for mental health care and remedial education. Both the State Department and the Department of Health and Human Services should begin collecting comprehensive data about which strategies and programs work best.

The benefits of such efforts flow both ways: Refugees go to the considerable strain of moving to the U.S. because they seek opportunities to work hard and improve their lives. Thus, they can be a boon to their new communities — creating jobs, stabilizing shrinking school districts, revitalizing blighted neighborhoods, and helping communities thrive.

On the other hand, consider the costs of denying entry to

See REFUGEES on Next Page



Marines seek to expel officer whose warning could have saved lives

In the decade I lived and worked in Afghanistan, from 2002 through 2011, I listened almost daily to people's frustration at their government's corrupt and demeaning behavior, and U.S. officials' refusal to curb it.

"The Afghan government is your face," Nurallah told me. He's a former police officer who worked in the cooperative I founded in Kandahar. "If it's pretty or ugly, it's your face."

In 2010, around when Nurallah made that comment, a U.S. Marine major named Jason Brezler was dealing with a corrupt Afghan National Police commander called Sarwar Jan in neighboring Helmand province. Brezler perfectly grasped Nurallah's point. The abuse of power so prevalent among Afghan officials — which appeared to locals to be perpetrated with U.S. connivance — was a danger to his mission to defeat the Taliban.

Brezler got Sarwar Jan removed from power, or at least sent away from his privileged position on the U.S. base. Three years later, however, he heard Sarwar Jan was back in the Marine fold. Brezler, by then a Brooklyn firefighter and a reservist, dispatched a warning the moment he found out. It went unheeded. Seventeen days later, a boy Sarwar Jan had been using for sex shot four Marines, killing three.

Brezler should be honored by the Marine Corps for his foresight. Instead the Corps plans to discharge him because the file he emailed to substantiate his concerns, and had saved on his computer, was classified. A hearing is scheduled in U.S. District Court for Oct. 14.

Brezler, who immediately reported his violation of classification rules, has argued that he was trying to save lives. His lawyer, Mark Bowe, plans to draw a comparison to the treatment of Hillary Clinton, who also kept sensitive information on a private server.

I hope Brezler prevails. And not just in court. His way of thinking must be adopted as the U.S. considers how to partner with foreign forces in its continuing fight against extremists, including Islamic State.

"The police in many cases was a destabilizing force," Brezler told NPR recently. They were "driving more folks into the arms of the Taliban." Capt. Dan Quinn — a special operations officer disciplined for punching a similarly abusive Afghan police commander — put it this way to the New York Times: "We were putting people into power who would do things that were worse than the Taliban did." It is little wonder the Taliban kept (and still keeps) gaining recruits. Or, in the case of Sarwar Jan, that a humiliated and physically violated teenager lashed out, turning a Kalashnikov on Marines who seemed to be protecting and enabling his tormentor.

Brezler was deployed during a brief period of maximum U.S. recognition that good governance was crucial to bringing peace to Afghanistan. A 2009 assessment of the war emphasized that Afghans' "crisis in confidence" in their government threatened

By **SARAH CHAYES**

Los Angeles Times

Sarah Chayes is a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Her latest book is "Thieves of State: Why Corruption Threatens Global Security." She wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



U.S. objectives, and that fostering "responsive and accountable government" should "be on a par with, and integral to, delivering security." Among other measures, U.S. and U.K. officials supported two major anticorruption investigations.

But those efforts were halfhearted and short-lived. By 2011, Afghan government corruption was no longer a serious U.S. priority. The approach reasserted itself among U.S. officials that corruption was just part of Afghan culture and should be left alone — even when it extended to the grotesquely complicated combination of abuse and favoritism that characterized the practice in which adult, usually powerful, men keep prepubescent boys as servants and for sex. The New York Times has documented the difficulty some officers encountered in trying to challenge the laissez-faire approach.

The presumption about culture that underlies that approach is false. As Brezler told NPR, residents were "absolutely elated" when Sarwar Jan was sent away from the base in 2010. "We could probably have had a parade the next day through the bazaar," he remembered. That same year, the commander of a provincial reconstruction team on the other side of the country enjoyed a similarly enthusiastic response — and a reduction in Taliban control in his province — when he stopped channeling development money to a corrupt governor. I never heard an Afghan dismiss corruption as if nobody minded.

Just because a behavior is common, in other words, doesn't mean it's accepted. (Would it be fair to deduce from the Catholic Church's problems that the faithful are by nature pedophiliac?)

Arguably, Brezler should have chosen a different way to detail his concerns about Sarwar Jan. But it was the failure to act on his information that threatened U.S. national security, not his transmission of it. With the combination of insight and initiative he demonstrated, Brezler should be training Marines, not being drummed out of the Corps. His reflex was one that, if replicated, would have led to very different outcomes in our wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Brezler's insight remains crucial to the U.S. fight against violent extremism. Who we empower in that fight and how our local allies treat the population may determine its outcome. That the Marine Corps insists on punishing Brezler demonstrates that its leadership has not yet learned the lesson.

Putin's worse than Obama

By **MAX BOOT**

Los Angeles Times

Max Boot is a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations and a contributing editor to the Los Angeles Times' opinion section.



Donald Trump has gotten a lot of well-justified criticism for his paeans to Vladimir Putin, Russia's anti-American dictator. Just last week Trump said that Putin has "very strong control over a country. ... Certainly in that system he's been a leader, far more than our president has been a leader."

Imagine a Republican in the 1930s saying, "Hitler has been far more of a leader than Franklin Roosevelt." That is, in fact, the kind of thing that the original America Firsters, led by Charles Lindbergh, did say, which is why it is so appalling that Trump has borrowed their slogan for his campaign.

But Trump isn't backing down from these offensive claims, and neither are his supporters. In a Twitter exchange with me, for example, the radio talk-show host Hugh Hewitt wrote: "Putin's an evil man. POTUS a good but incompetent man. Putin has served his country's national interest better."

I commend Hewitt for admitting that Putin is evil — something that Trump has never done. Trump, in fact, has never uttered one word of criticism of the Russian strongman. But what of Hewitt's larger claim — that Putin has done a better job of serving Russian interests than President Obama has done of

serving American interests?

I am no defender of Obama. I was a foreign policy advisor to John McCain in 2008 and Mitt Romney in 2012, and I have been very critical of Obama's weak foreign policy. I think the Iran nuclear deal, the withdrawal from Iraq in 2011 and the hands-off policy toward Syria, in particular, have been catastrophic mistakes. I am no fan, either, of Obama's tax-and-spend policies culminating in the passage of a costly health care mandate. But on both foreign and domestic policy there is simply no comparison between the democratically elected president of America and the thug who has seized control of Russia.

Let's start with the domestic side. Granted, the U.S. recovery from the Great Recession of 2008-2009 has been anemic under Obama — the growth rate of 2.1 percent is below the postwar average of 2.9 percent — but GDP still has grown in 25 of the last 27 quarters and the unemployment rate has fallen to 4.9 percent.

And how has Putin done by comparison? According to the World Bank, Russia's GDP fell 40 percent between 2013 and 2015 — from \$2.23 trillion to \$1.33 trillion. "To put that in perspective," notes CNBC, "U.S. GDP shrank at the onset of the Great Recession from \$14.719 trillion in 2008 to \$14.419 trillion in 2009 — a decline of 2 percent."

Moreover, Lauren Goodrich of the Stratfor geopolitical consultancy points out, "Over the past year, the average Russian's monthly wage fell 9.5 percent, slipping below \$450 — less than in China, Serbia and Romania. According to state statistics, 50 percent of that income goes toward food, a figure on par with many African countries."

In other words, the Putin presidency has been an economic disaster for the Russian people. To the extent that Russia has prospered at all since the dawn of the Putin era in 1999, it's due entirely to its oil wealth. Putin has done nothing to develop a viable economy. Russia (population 146 million, according to Wikipedia) has a smaller GDP than South Korea (population 50 million).

Putin defenders will reply that it's not all his fault — that Russia's economy has been badly hurt by sanctions imposed by the West. But why did the U.S. and Europe impose sanctions on Russia? Here's where foreign policy comes in: Because Putin brazenly violated international law by invading Ukraine and annexing Crimea. His proxies even shot down a Malaysian jetliner, killing all 293 people on board, using a Russian-supplied anti-aircraft missile. These are war crimes that cannot in good conscience be compared with anything that Obama has done.

Putin's actions, and in particular the annexation of Crimea, have been widely applauded by Russians who have been given a one-sided view of the world by his propaganda apparatus. The Kremlin's media lackeys claim that the Russia intervention in Ukraine was a response to the rise of fascists and neo-Nazis, rather than to the rise of a democratically elected, pro-Western government.

This is what makes Trump's claim that Putin has an 82 percent approval rating — and therefore he must be a good leader — so ridiculous. Sure, he's popular, but no alternative is allowed. As Human Rights Watch notes, "The Kremlin's crackdown on civil society, media and the Internet took a more sinister turn in 2015 as the government further intensified harassment and persecution of independent critics. For the fourth year in a row, parliament adopted laws and authorities engaged in repressive practices that increasingly isolated the country." Anyone who dares to openly criticize Putin risks going in to jail, exile or an early grave.

Putin is pursuing the classic despot's strategy: He is invading neighbors and beating the drums of war in order to distract his own people from his ruinous and tyrannical rule. He is not serving Russia's interests, only his own and those of his crooked cronies. It is terrifying that Trump sees Putin as an admirable leader, and shameful that his supporters have fallen in line to defend his indefensible views.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Are 902 talks a waste of time and money?

What is 902? Offhand, that's the section in our CNMI Covenant which says that in all matters affecting the relationship between the U.S. and us, we and the United States are to meet and discuss such issue, including future multi-year financial assistance to us, the CNMI, pursuant to Section 701 of this Covenant, to meet at least one year prior to the expiration of every period of such financial assistance.

Sections 701 and 702, then discusses U.S. financial assistance to us. Now, with all due respect to the 1972 Covenant negotiators, this article is not about what you accomplished but rather what you did not. You know that the Covenant was far from perfect. There are serious flaws going against our interests. The negotiated and approved provisions of the Covenant did surrender our sovereignty to the United States. Reviewing, right after World War II, in San Francisco, the U.N. placed us under the sovereignty of the U.S. because we were devastated by the war. We had no experience governing ourselves. We have no industrial or natural resource to hold up our government, if we do get organized. And we knew of no caretaker government to help us rebuild from scratch. Now, for the most part, you gave the authority and power of administration to the United States for the international arena, including some of our internal sovereignty. The U.S. negotiators pointed out to us which land they want and how they want it, and you said, "yes." And then, they came again and claimed our underwater land and the various swamps, and cut short our economic zone, declared some of our flora, fauna, and fish endangered species, ask for more of Tinian, all of Pagan, in addition to the lands U.S. is already using but not included in the agreed lease negotiation. You gave the U.S. control over us under the broad terms of defense and foreign affairs and it opened the gate to the U.S. wresting control of our submerged lands, imposing control over our flora and fauna as well as our wetlands, and surface land. You did lease to the U.S. 18,182

REFUGEES

From Page 10

any more Syrian refugees. It would feed Islamic State's narrative that the U.S. is anti-Muslim, and weaken America's global leadership. Set next to the nearly half-million Syrian refugees the United Nations says need to be resettled over the next three years, 10,000 is a pretty modest figure. Set against the more than 3 million refugees the U.S. has admitted since 1975, it seems very small indeed.

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square meters of land in the NMI for 40 years which the U.S. can renew for another 55 years, a grand total of 105 years for the unbelievable sum of only \$19,520,600.

That comes down to \$1073.62 per square meter which over 105 years boils down to around \$10.22 per acre per year, no increase in lease rate. By the way, when the Farallon de Mendinilla lease expires, will the U.S. return the island to its pre-bombing pristine state or leave it loaded along with its surrounding waters, with unexploded munitions forever? No guarantee the military would want to stop the leasing. Especially now with China and North Korea developing nuclear materials, enough for 10 nuclear warheads? On top of all that, we still cannot vote for the U.S. President here. Our rights under federal law are limited that we have become second-class American citizens.

And now we're being told who can come, who can stay, and how long they can stay on these shores. It's like shackling up with a partner who moves into your house, then all of a sudden starts dictating who can come, how they can stay, and setting up house rules as if the partner was the principal owner. You are not king or queen in your castle. Your partner is, because you allowed it. How much of your house rule did you allow? It should be quid pro quo, and more of that to our favor. And that calls for a review of everything you have allowed the U.S. That's where the "902 Talk" comes in. Do we need another 902 talks with the U.S.? You'd better believe it. We have a little more than 40 years experience as a commonwealth. Let's tweak that Covenant provisions and the Ninth Circuit once more for our benefit. If ever, we need negotiators who are educated, experienced, aggressive, logical, no meek, and rational. No "yes sir." Because the majority is silent does not mean they are contented with the status quo or that they are not suffering the consequences of our agreement. And if they are not now, just wait and see, in a couple of years, you'd better have a sizeable bank account or else, taste the hard life.

Now, our young men are not of the same mentality, education, and demeanor of our parents. Now, our young men are educated or being educated. We could recognize when our lives are getting stifled and drowned by missed opportunities courtesy the Covenant. So, instead of trying to downplay flaws in the Covenant, you, representing us, should speak up and tell the U.S. what you know, what you're experiencing, get involved, any difficulty under the Covenant, and do something. Do not cave in to the strong-arm tactics of our U.S. partner who is going rampant using our lands outside of the lease agreement, like on Rota and Anatahan. The Navy wants Anatahan for ship-to-shore naval bombardments, and also persistent in its quest to amend the lease agreement.

NMDs and Article 12

Did you know that there exists a good possibility that Best Sunshine can buy land in the CNMI and not have to negotiate a 55-year lease? Article 12 you say, sure, but just how much do you know about the law? And how much do you know about legal precedents? Are there others?

We have Article 12 of our Constitution that restricts land ownership to NMDs only. We have court cases based on Article 12, these reference cases establish the legal precedents which impact subsequent similar cases and decisions based on our law. Guess, NMD land allowed to be inherited by non-NMD spouse, by the court, upon the death of the NMD husband and owner. Now, if you're married to a non-NMD and you get divorced, can a judge take part of your land and award it to your former spouse, who again, is non-NMD? I still say that Art-XII holds, until amended via legislative or popular initiative and the proposed amendment popularly approved in the general election.

The U.S. immigration service has a standing rule that if a non-U.S. citizen marries an American citizen, and later were divorced, that non-U.S. will be removed. That where I am basing my reasoning. And I maintain that the judiciary does not have the power of eminent domain to seize a private or public land, give it to somebody else, and then ask the Executive Branch to pay the aggrieved losing owner. Should not be a legal precedent because a non-NMD is, still, exactly that, a non-NMD, and still has no right to own a land, the ownership restriction has not changed, and our supreme law prohibits the court from making changes without consent of the governed, initiative or plebiscite.

The judiciary cannot construct public policy for the CNMI. That's the domain of the Executive Branch. Now, if the judge does in fact award NMI land to a non-NMD, doesn't that establish a legal precedent permitting non-NMDs to own land here? Still, the judiciary lacks the power of eminent domain and, thus, no legal precedent being established, because then the court would be usurping the people's power and authority established by the plebiscite, and in fact, the court would be perverting the Covenant and constitution. The court consists of human being with varying level of rationality and ability. So, if the judge goes against the rule of supreme law, that judge has, in fact, claimed the people's power and the authority not assigned to it by the Covenant or the constitution. Perturbed? You bet I am. So let's look at some of the rulings made by Judge Robert Hefner. I feel that he tended to go beyond his judiciary boundary assigned to it by our supreme law. A San Roque land awarded to a non-NMD Japanese widow, the court claiming inheritance case. In another court case, Judge Hefner award a land to an American citizen, never a TTPI citizen, full-blooded Guamanian lady, zero Northern Marianas descent.

Real cases, real usurpations, real constitutional perversions, irrational and unsound logics, and unassigned responsibilities. Through these court cases, the judiciary is making public policy for the Executive Branch, and experimenting in lawmaking for the Legislature. Constitutionally assigned power and authority? What happen to it? Now, a question for the Legislature, 19th and on. When are you going to appropriate money to compensate landowners whose lands are already being used by the government? Stop the money grabbing and pay.

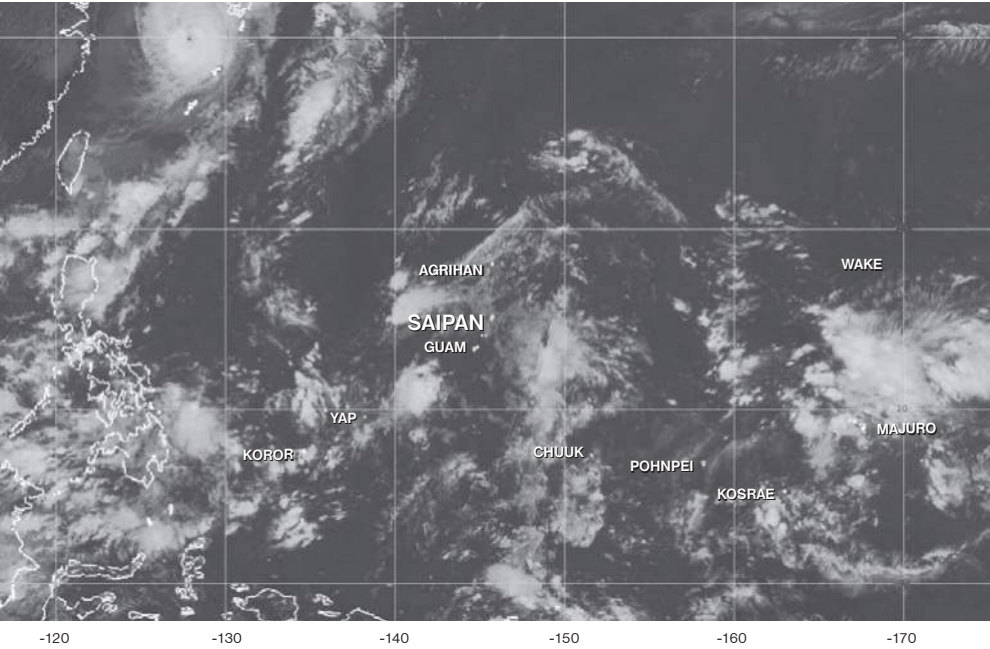
Rudy M. Sablan
Garapan

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲ 90° ▼ 79°	▲ 90° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 4:06 AM, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

In the wake of the minor convective outbreak that dumped heavy rain on Guam between midnight and 2am, quite a bit of cloudiness remains across the Marianas, but only isolated showers. Gentle east to southeast winds and 3-4 ft seas are found over the region. Scattered showers and locally heavy rain are possible at times during the second half of the week, especially if the ECMWF turns out to be the more correct model. For now, have maintained mostly cloudy skies and isolated thunderstorms through tonight and again Wed night through Sat night.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▼ ▲		
Guam and Rota	Mostly cloudy	81 / 89 °F
Palau	Partly cloudy	80 / 88 °F
Yap	Mostly cloudy	79 / 89 °F
Chuuk	Broken clouds	78 / 88 °F
Pohnpei	Mostly cloudy	75 / 87 °F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	78 / 85 °F
Majuro	Mostly cloudy	83 / 86 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE ▼ ▲		
Auckland	Mostly cloudy	51 / 56 °F
Beijing	Sunny	51 / 79 °F
Hong Kong	Morning clouds	78 / 87 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	73 / 83 °F
London	Mostly cloudy	57 / 68 °F
Los Angeles	Morning clouds	63 / 85 °F
Manila	Mostly cloudy	80 / 90 °F
Melbourne	Partly cloudy	47 / 64 °F
Miami	Cloudy	78 / 87 °F
New York	Showers	71 / 81 °F
Osaka	Mostly cloudy	69 / 74 °F
Paris	Partly cloudy	54 / 70 °F
Pusan	Morning clouds	67 / 73 °F
Rome	Partly cloudy	56 / 77 °F
Salem	Mostly sunny	49 / 69 °F
San Francisco	Morning clouds	57 / 69 °F
Seoul	Mostly sunny	58 / 77 °F
Tokyo	Mostly cloudy	65 / 69 °F
Washington, DC	Morning clouds	68 / 83 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
4:04 AM	LOW TIDE	0.02 Feet
10:15 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.97 Feet
4:23 PM	LOW TIDE	0.58 Feet
10:00 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.99 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:06 AM	6:15 PM
Wednesday	6:06 AM	6:14 PM
Thursday	6:06 AM	6:13 PM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:12 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:12 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	9:15 PM	9:12 AM
Wednesday	10:08 PM	10:13 AM
Thursday	10:03 PM	11:13 AM
Friday	11:59 PM	12:12 AM
Saturday	11:59 PM	1:08 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4	UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM				
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM				
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Administrator urges Vatican to remove Guam's archbishop

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—A Roman Catholic administrator is urging the Vatican to remove Guam's archbishop, who has refused to resign amid accusations of sexual abuse against altar boys.

The move comes after a letter delivered in July from leaders in the Archdiocese of Agaña did not move Archbishop Anthony Apuron to leave his post.

Archbishop Savio Hon, a temporary apostolic administrator for Guam who was appointed by the Vatican after the allegations surfaced, also is urging parishioners to sign a petition upholding the statute of limitation on civil lawsuits for child sex abuse.

He said the archdiocese "will be exposed to unlimited financial liability" forcing the sale of church property. Guam's population is about 80 percent Catholic.

A bill that lifts the current statute of limitation passed the Guam Legislature and is expected to be delivered to the governor's desk on Sept. 21. The Guam church has not submitted any substitute bill for consideration.

"Right now we hope any legislation would not damage the social service agencies and the schools that are not a part of these accusations," said Father Jeff San Nicolas, who is Guam's apostolic delegate.



AP
Rev. Fr. Jeffrey C. San Nicolas, apostolic delegate, delivers a homily on Sunday, Sept. 18, 2016, at the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral-Basilica in Hagatna, Guam.

Priests of the island's 26 Catholic churches were asked to read a two-page letter during Sunday masses, which Hon sent from Rome, in which he addressed these matters and also stated that Apuron would undergo a canonical trial.

Parishioner Roland C. Flores, 40, who heard the letter being read at a Sunday mass, said he signed the petition "so they won't shut down Catholic schools." He attended Catholic schools and does not want to see them turned into government facilities.

Hon in the letter also announced the creation of a trust fund to provide compensation for Guam's survivors of clergy sex abuse.

"We are already in the process of assessing certain assets to create this fund. We will address this financial obligation—financial settlements through this fund that we create," said San Nicolas.

Catholics make up about 80 percent of Guam's population. Aprun, 70, was appointed as archbishop in 1986 by then-Pope John Paul II and has been beset by recent allegations from former altar boys that he sexually abused them in the 1970's.

Hon is expected to return to Guam on Wednesday.

Federated States of Micronesia strengthens post disaster needs

YAP, Federated States of Micronesia—The cost of disaster is critical in determining the support and impact on countries and the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) has been struggling to determine the full cost of Typhoons Maysak and Dolphin in 2015 and the recent crippling drought.

To support this process, a Post Disasters Needs Assessment training is being conducted for disaster experts from the four states of FSM—Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap.

The training, which began last Friday in Colonia, Yap, is supported by the Pacific Community (SPC) and the European Union (EU) through the ACP-EU Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific project.

Widely accepted as the international standard, Post Disaster Needs Assessments are comprehensive assessments that reveal the true cost of disasters by identifying all the impacts and calculating the cost of the damage and associated losses.

The week-long training aims to strengthen the country's

ability to improve reporting on the impact of future disasters whilst helping to develop critical data to inform the identification of long term recovery, reconstruction needs and ways to mitigate future hazards.

In supporting the training, FSM's Director of Office Environment and Emergency Management (OEEM), Andrew Yatilman, stated that FSM should be in a better position to fully present the impacts of disasters throughout the islands which has been a challenge in the past.

"It's also going to give participants who are representing the states the foundation to conduct Post Disaster Needs Assessments and the types of baseline data that needs to be developed in each of the critical sectors," Mr Yatilman said.

The training will be led by Dr Asha Kambon, a specialist in the Post Disaster Needs Assessment methodology, with support from SPC's Disaster Risk Management Officer, Noa Tokavou.

The event concludes on Sept. 23. (PR)

Independence for Guåhan Task Force holds 2nd general assembly Thursday

The Independence for Guåhan Task Force invites the public to attend its second general assembly this Thursday, Sept. 22 from 6pm to 7:30pm at the main pavilion of the Chamorro Village in Hagåtña.

At its last general assembly, the task force brought together more than 80 members of the community, who were given information about Guåhan's current political status as an unincorporated territory. One of the most pressing questions asked by attendees was how Guam should handle recent threats from North Korea.

Thus, the educational presentation for this upcoming meeting will focus on the limitations and vulnerabili-

ties that come with being an unincorporated territory that hosts U.S. bases, specifically in light of North Korea and China's relationship with the United States. Community members also asked for information about small, successful independent nations that they could look to as examples for what is possible for Guam. The task force will thus present on Singapore, which is commonly considered to be one of the richest nations in the world, and is roughly similar to Guam in terms of area size.

Each general assembly also

Meeting to highlight coral reef conservation strategies, successes

From Sept. 19 to 24, 2016, the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force will join the governors of Guam and the CNMI and top federal and state leaders to highlight coral reef conservation strategies and successes—including the status of the Micronesia Challenge, watershed restoration projects and climate change adaptation strategies. The task force,

co-chaired by the Department of the Interior and the Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), includes leaders from 12 federal agencies, seven U.S. states and territories, and three freely associated states.

Established in 1998 by a Presidential Executive Order, the U.S. Coral Reef Task

Force's mission is to lead, coordinate, and strengthen U.S. government actions to better preserve and protect coral reef ecosystems. The 36th meeting of the task force will explore important activities in the area, including a commitment made by regional leaders to conserve at least 30 percent of the near-shore marine resources and 20 percent of the terrestrial resources across Micronesia by 2020.

The Interior Department and NOAA also expect to announce progress on the CNMI Submerged Lands Transfer on Sept. 22 on Saipan just after the U.S. Coral Task Force Business Meeting Day 1. The submerged lands are among some of the most biologically diverse in the Western Pacific Ocean, with relatively pristine coral reef ecosystems that have been proclaimed objects of scientific interest and reserved for protection as part of the Monument's Islands Unit by Presidential Proclamation 8335 of Jan. 6, 2009.

Aside from Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Guam Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo, the meeting will also be attended by Lori Faeth, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and In-

ternational Affairs; and Eileen Sobock, Assistant Administrator for the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Additional high-ranking officials, including federal and state leaders from the Department of Justice, Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Navy, U.S. Army, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the states and territories of Florida, Hawaii, American Samoa, U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands are also expected to attend.

The meeting starts on Saipan this Thursday, Sept. 22, with the USCRTF Business Meeting Day 1 to address priority threats and innovative solutions at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

It continues in Guam on Friday, Sept. 23 through Saturday, Sept. 24, at the Hyatt Regency in Tumon. The USCRTF Business Meeting Day 2 will have registration required for site visit and local field trip to examine marine and coastal issues.

Please register and review registration requirements at <http://marianascoral.org/>. (PR)

» **Educational focus will be on how being a US territory enhances possibility of foreign attack**

pays tribute to a Chamoru hero, who believed in independence for Guåhan as part of a series called I Maga'taotao Siha.

Dr. Bernadita Camacho-Dungca, who passed away earlier this year, will be honored as part of this series on Thursday.

Dungca was a pioneer in Chamorro linguistics and education and was also a strong advocate for the rights of the Chamorro people to decolonization and self-preservation.

Her most enduring legacy can be found in the words she penned for Guam's national

pledge, the Inifresi. Upholding its mission to educate and engage the island community about the benefits of independence as a future political status for Guåhan, the task force will continue to host general Assemblies every fourth Thursday of every month to provide a forum where the community can ask questions, obtain information and sign up to help promote decolonization and independence for the island.

For more information, please contact Independent Guåhan chair Dr. Michael Lujan Bevacqua a (671) 988-7106, email independentguahan@gmail.com, or visit www.independentguahan.com. (PR)

Business

Drone operators seek permission to fly out of direct sight

FARGO, N.D. (AP)—As thousands of commercial drones take to the skies under new Federal Aviation Administration rules, some small operators are pursuing a coveted exemption that would allow them to fly their drones where they can't be seen by the pilot.

The companies who want them say the so-called line-of-sight exemptions are essential to someday use drones for such tasks as cleanup and repair after storm damage and monitoring widespread crop conditions.

But thus far, the FAA has only given exemptions to three companies that participated in a year-long FAA pilot program: CNN, BNSF Railway and the drone data company PrecisionHawk. Although some small commercial drone operators say the new rules are too restrictive, the agency says it drafted them in a way that will save lives, minimize damage on the ground and address the concerns of commercial airline pilots.

Matt Dunlevy, whose Grand Forks-based SkySkopes is pursuing an exemption to help provide services such as infrastructure inspections, said it's "extremely important" to expand the waiver program.

"That is the silver bullet that's really going to unlock the potential in our industry," he said.

The FAA expects there will be 600,000 commercial drone aircraft operating in the U.S. within the year, with ultimate

plans to have them inspect bridges and rail and transmission lines, assist firefighters, shoot movie footage, gather news, and deliver products, among other uses.

PrecisionHawk, which is based in Raleigh, North Carolina, represents customers in the agriculture, mining, forestry, insurance and telecommunications industries, among others. One of their clients, DuPont Pioneer, is researching the use of drones for improving crop efficiency and practices for growers.

"First and foremost, safety is the top priority," said Lia Riech, PrecisionHawk's vice president of marketing. "We also want to continue pushing the boundaries. Obviously it's important for us to cover the acreage that is representative of our clients."

It's difficult to know which companies are pursuing exemptions, as the FAA won't identify applicants. Dunlevy, the SkySkopes chief executive, estimates that fewer than 50 companies would qualify.

At least one other company operating in North Dakota—Sharper Shape, which manufactures the Sharper A6 drone—is seeking permission. Its drone is being tested by SkySkopes pilots in an Xcel Energy project in North Dakota to see if unmanned aircraft can be used after storms and other natural disasters to help the company move crews, materials and equipment. The project also includes a larger Hermes



450 drone that can cover 62 square miles (160 sq. kilometers) in an hour and fly up to 17 hours before refueling.

The maneuverability of the A6 can help pinpoint a specific area to restore and repair damage, Xcel spokesman Mark Nisbet said.

"We're excited to explore a variety of unmanned aircraft systems because they have the potential to help Xcel Energy assess damage more quickly," Nisbet said. "This capability can lead to more efficient outage response times, save money, bring value to our customers and enhance employee and public safety."

The Sharper A6 drone stretches 6 feet (1.8 meters) from propeller to propeller and weighs about 20 pounds (9 kilograms). Sharper Shape

CEO Tero Heinonen says the drone is the first one designed specifically to perform utility

asset inspections. It uses four redundant cellular networks to make it virtually impossible

In this Aug. 29, 2016, file photo provided by Sharper Shape and SkySkopes, Cory Vinger, senior instructor pilot for SkySkopes, prepares a Sharper A6 drone for a test flight in eastern North Dakota near Blanchard.

for the drone to lose communication with ground control operators, he said.

The company has been flying the aircraft beyond line of sight since 2014 in Finland, where Heinonen founded the company before moving his operations to California and North Dakota.

"It is commercially proven," Heinonen said. "This is something that opens such a huge market that will simply help any American company using drones."

Easier to stop workplace bully of equal rank

Q: A colleague of mine, a fellow manager, is a bully. "Pamela" seems to delight in exposing her colleagues to public humiliation. Her boss and human resources have been told about this bullying behavior, but no action has been taken. They brush off all complaints by talking about how hard Pamela works. What can be done about this?

A: Employees of bullying bosses have reason to be anxious given they're innately subordinate position. But when the aggressor is a peer, workers really need to grow a backbone. While Pamela may be rude, offensive and overbearing, she actually has no power to "bully" fellow managers.

Because bullying requires both a dominator and a victim, targets can break the cycle by refusing to adopt a passive role. So when Pamela becomes obnoxiously aggressive, her co-workers must defend themselves. A submissive reaction will only reward her intimidating tactics and continue the pattern.

When Pamela begins making inappropriate remarks, you could ignore her, change the subject or simply walk away. You might also stop her by calmly saying, "Those comments are not very helpful." If other managers share your concerns, that group could inform Pamela that they will no longer tolerate this unprofessional behavior.

The bottom line is that, instead of waiting for rescue from above, you need to take matters into your own hands.

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of *Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.



While management is clearly obligated to protect employees from abusive bosses, workers fortunately have both the power and the right to stand up for themselves.

Q: Every year, our department sponsors several fundraising activities for the company's favorite charity. Although I always give the suggested amount of money, I have never volunteered to work at these events.

Because the same people always offer to help, our manager recently said that everyone should take a more active role in fundraising. I don't believe that this forced participation is appropriate. What's your opinion?

A: While providing an opportunity for charitable giving is commendable, pressuring employees to donate money or time feels very much like an abuse of power. It's one thing to accept voluntary contributions for the community's United Way campaign, but quite another to compel support for the CEO's pet cause.

When managers imply that fundraising is a job requirement, they have inappropriately crossed the

boundary between work and personal life. But since this is your current reality, you unfortunately must decide whether skipping these events will harm your career and whether that risk is worth taking.

Q: You recently published a question from a partially deaf reader who had difficulty understanding speakers at company events, especially when they walked away from the podium. I have a suggestion for solving that problem.

At the school where I work, teachers with hearing-impaired students use an FM device, similar to a microphone, that transmits their voice directly to the student's hearing aid. Perhaps this could also be used in employee meetings.

A: Thank you for passing along a very helpful suggestion. According to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, these "personal FM systems" are often used to improve hearing in public settings. Anyone considering such a device as a work accommodation should first consult with an appropriate medical professional.

Amid hefty tourism drop, Turkey hopes to weather storm

ISTANBUL (AP)—With summer drawing to a close, Turkey is counting the cost of a tough year that saw a string of terrorist bombings and the fallout from a diplomatic spat with Moscow that cut deep into the country's crucial tourist trade.

And then right bang in the middle of summer, the economic backdrop got more precarious after an attempted military coup that saw more than 270 people killed, the imposition of a state of emergency and the subsequent arrest and dismissal of thousands of supposed sympathizers.

Turkey's Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Simsek conceded the failed coup on July 15 and its aftermath have "weakened" the economy even as he praised its resilience in the face of such adversity.

Tourism, a crucial foreign-currency earner for a country

in constant need of foreign currency to plug a yawning current account deficit, has borne the brunt of the economic fallout.

That's mainly due to a precipitous 89 percent drop in Russian tourist arrivals after a diplomatic fallout between the two countries brought on by Turkey's downing of a Russian warplane last year. Russia was Turkey's second-largest tourist market with 4.5 million people visiting places like Turkey's tourism capital Antalya in 2014.

With many Russians holidaying elsewhere, Turkey stands to lose between \$8 and \$10 billion in tourism revenue by the end of the year, according to Cetin Gurcun, Secretary General Turkey's travel agency association TURSAB. No amount of deals could fully plug that gap.

"If we consider the volume of the Russian market, it's not easy to fill the void," Gurcun

told The Associated Press.

Turkey-Russia relations are now back on track, but Gurcun doesn't expect the Russian market to rebound before next year.

It wasn't just Russians who have stayed away from Turkey's beaches and the cultural delights of places like Istanbul.

Thomas Cook, the British-based holiday company, said recently that demand for Turkish holidays was "significantly below last year's level" and that its overall bookings for the summer 2016 season were down by 5 percent largely because of this particular "geopolitical disruption."

Official Turkish figures for the whole of the summer tourist season have yet to be released. But it's clear there's been a hit. June and July alone saw tourism arrivals plunge an annual 40 and 36 percent, respectively.

And with fewer tourists, re-

Nation

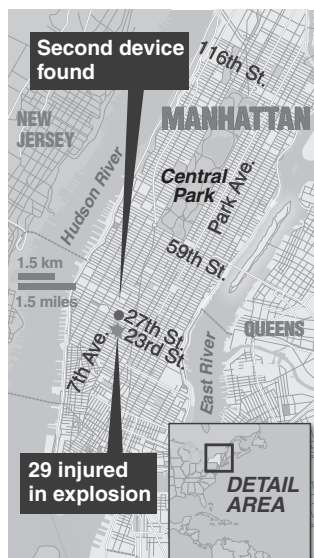
Device near train station explodes while FBI investigates

ELIZABETH, N.J. (AP)—A suspicious device found in a trash can near a New Jersey train station exploded early Monday as a bomb squad was attempting to disarm it with a robot officials said.

Elizabeth Mayor Christian Bollwage said that the FBI was working to disarm one of five devices found in the same bag, which was discovered in a trash can by two men around 8:30 p.m. Sunday, near the Elizabeth train station on the Northeast Corridor rail line. The men had reported seeing wires and a pipe coming out of the package, Bollwage said.

There was no immediate report of injuries or damage. A message left with the FBI wasn't immediately returned. The mayor warned that other explosions were expected.

NEW YORK (AP)—Authorities are questioning several people as they try to determine any possible connection between an explosion in a bustling New York City neighborhood, an



Source: AP
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

unexploded pressure-cooker device found blocks away and a pipe bomb blast in New Jersey.

FBI spokeswoman Kelly Langmesser says agents stopped "a vehicle of interest in the investigation" of the Manhattan explosion Sunday night. She said no one has been charged.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo said the Saturday night



Francis Larkin, left, chief of the Seaside Park Police Department joins Brad Cohen, the acting special agent in charge of the FBI's field office in Newark, N.J., at a news conference in front of the Seaside Park Police Department, Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016 in Seaside Park, N.J.

blast in Manhattan that injured 29 people didn't appear to be linked to in-

ternational terrorism.

Cell phones were discovered at the site of both

bombings. Authorities say the New York City bomb contained residue of an ex-

FBI investigates Minnesota stabbings as possible terror act

ST. CLOUD, Minn. (AP)—A man in a private security uniform stabbed nine people at a Minnesota shopping mall, reportedly asking one victim if he or she was Muslim before an off-duty police officer shot and killed him in an attack the Islamic State group claimed as its own.

None of the nine people who were stabbed in Saturday night's attack received life-threatening wounds, St. Cloud police Chief Blair Anderson said. He said it doesn't appear that anyone else was involved in the attack at the Crossroads Center in St. Cloud, which began at around 8 p.m. and was over within minutes.

At a news conference Sunday, FBI Special Agent-in-Charge Rick Thornton said the

attack was being investigated as a possible act of terrorism and that agents were still digging into the attacker's background and possible motives. Authorities were looking at social media accounts and the attacker's electronic devices and talking to his associates, Thornton said.

An Islamic State-run news agency, Rasd, claimed Sunday that the attacker was a "soldier of the Islamic State" who had heeded the group's calls for attacks in countries that are part of a U.S.-led anti-IS coalition.

It was not immediately clear if the extremist group had planned the attack or even knew about it beforehand. IS has encouraged so-called "lone wolf" attacks. It has also claimed past attacks that are not

believed to have been planned by its central leadership.

Authorities didn't identify the attacker, but the Star Tribune of Minneapolis said the man's father identified him as Dahir A. Adan, 22. Speaking to the newspaper through an interpreter, Ahmed Adan, whose family is Somali, said his son was born in Africa and had lived in the U.S. for 15 years.

A spokesman for St. Cloud State University confirmed that Adan was a student there, but has not been enrolled since the spring semester. Spokesman Adam Hammer said Adan's intended major was information systems, which is a computer-related field.

Ahmed Adan said police told him around 9 p.m. Sat-

urday that his son had died at the mall, and that police had raided the family's apartment, seizing photos and other materials. He said police said nothing to him about the mall attack, and that he had "no suspicion" that his son had been involved in terrorist activity, the newspaper reported.

Anderson said police had had three previous encounters with the attacker, mostly for minor traffic violations.

According to Anderson, the attacker, dressed in a security uniform and wielding what appeared to be a kitchen knife, began attacking people right after entering the mall, stabbing people in several spots inside the building, including corridors, businesses and common areas.

ACROSS THE NATION

Hatchet-wielding man killed by cop outside restaurant

BEAUMONT, Calif. (AP)—Police say a Southern California officer fatally shot a man armed with a hatchet who was approaching drivers near a fast food restaurant drive-thru window. The Desert Sun reported Sunday that a Beaumont officer shot the man after he refused to follow police orders. The Riverside County Sheriff's Department is investigating the shooting. Officers have not released the identity of the man who was killed or the officer who shot him. The officer has been placed on administrative leave. The man was pronounced dead at a hospital. No one else was injured.

Metal nut, possibly from California truck, fatally hits man

MENLO PARK, Calif. (AP)—The California Department of Transportation says a large metal nut that struck and killed a man as he drove on a Northern California freeway may have come from one of its trucks. Caltrans said Sunday the water truck was driving between job sites at the time of the accident on U.S. Highway 101 in Menlo Park Friday afternoon. The California Highway Patrol says the driver, identified as 82-year-old Louis Schaefer, was struck in the neck by a bolt the size of a baseball when it smashed

through his car windshield. CHP Officer Art Montiel said the bolt may have fallen off a vehicle or been kicked up from the road. Caltrans said it's cooperating with the CHP as they finish their investigation and offered condolences to Schaefer's family and friends.

2 destroyers to be named for Medal of Honor recipients

OXFORD, Miss. (AP)—Navy Secretary Ray Mabus says two destroyers will be named for Marines who received the Medal of Honor for actions during World War II. The 509-foot-long Arleigh Burke-class destroyers will be the first ships named for Jack H. Lucas and Louis H. Wilson Jr., he said during a ceremony Saturday at Vaught-Hemingway Stadium in Oxford. Lucas was a 17-year-old private when he got on top of on one grenade and pulled another under his body in a trench during the Battle of Iwo Jima. He was injured and saved three other Marines from injury. Lucas was the youngest World War II service member to receive the Medal of Honor. As a captain, Wilson commanded Company F, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines, which destroyed a larger attacking force during the Battle of Guam. He became a general and the Marine Corps' 26th commandant in July 1975.

Pump problem? Ga. gov says he's received no complaints

ATLANTA (AP)—The governor of Georgia said Sunday his office hasn't received any complaints of gas shortages within the state after a pipeline spill in central Alabama but some gas station employees have said they've had to close because they're out.

"As of now ... we've not received any complaints. If that changes on Monday or at any time in the coming days, the governor's office will act accordingly," Gov. Nathan Deal's spokeswoman Jen Ryan said in a statement Sunday.

Fuel supplies in at least five states—Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and the Carolinas—were threatened by the spill, and the U.S. Department of Transportation ordered the company responsible, Colonial Pipeline, to take corrective action before the fuel starts flowing again.

Drivers in Atlanta found some pumps completely dry or they had to pay 20 cents more because, according to a sign on the pump, the gas had to be pulled from Savannah.

An employee at a Quick-Trip in Alpharetta, gasless

since Saturday, said Sunday they don't expect to refill until Wednesday or Thursday.

Ingles Gas Express in Hiassee turned off their price sign lights in an area where gas is becoming scarce, an employee said.

"We just blanked out our sign," said the Ingles employee, who did not want to disclose her name. "Other places are getting small shipments. We might get ours by Tuesday, but it's still up in the air."

A Shell station in Carrollton is only carrying premium

grade, a worker said.

Colonial Pipeline announced Saturday it was beginning construction of a temporary pipeline that will bypass a leaking section of its main gasoline pipeline in Shelby County, Alabama. It did not give a timeline for the construction.

The company has acknowledged that between 252,000 gallons and 336,000 gallons of gasoline leaked from a pipeline near Helena, Alabama, since the spill was first detected Sept. 9. It's unclear when the spill actually started.

Asia

Norwegian says his PH kidnapping was ‘devastating’

INDANAN, Philippines (AP)—A Norwegian man freed by militants after a year of jungle captivity in the southern Philippines described the ordeal Sunday as “devastating,” carrying a backpack with a bullet hole as a reminder of a near-death experience that included the beheadings of the two Canadians kidnapped with him.

Kjartan Sekkingstad was freed by his Abu Sayyaf captors on Saturday to rebels from the larger Moro National Liberation Front, which has signed a peace deal with the Philippine government and helped negotiate his release. On Sunday, he was handed over to Philippine authorities, along with three Indonesian fishermen freed separately by the Abu Sayyaf.

Aside from the horror of constantly being warned that he would be the next to be beheaded by the brutal ex-

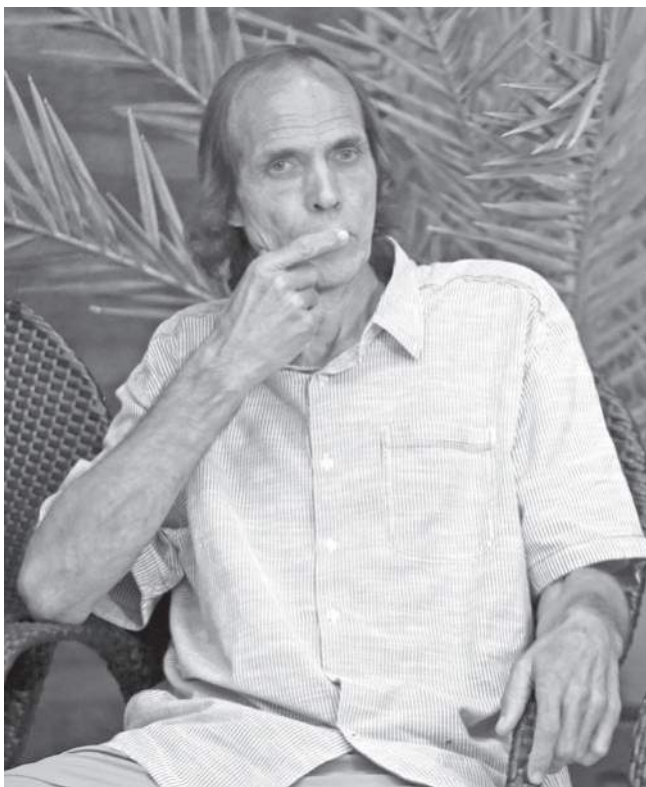
tremists, Sekkingstad said he survived more than a dozen clashes between Philippine forces and his captors in the lush jungles of Sulu province.

In one intense battle, in which the forces fired from assault helicopters and from the ground, he said he felt a thud in his back and thought he was hit by gunfire. After the fighting eased, he discovered that he wasn’t hit, and that his green, army-style backpack had been pierced by the gunfire instead.

Sekkingstad was carrying the damaged backpack when he walked to freedom Saturday somewhere in the thick jungle off Sulu’s mountainous Patikul town.

On Sunday, the heavily bearded Sekkingstad, clad in a rebel camouflage uniform and muddy combat boots, was asked how he would describe his horrific experience.

“Devastating, devastating,”



Released Norwegian hostage Kjartan Sekkingstad listens to Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte during his audience with the Philippine leader in Davao city in southern Philippines Sunday, Sept. 18, 2016.

he said, still clutching the backpack.

Philippine presidential adviser Jesus Dureza, who received Sekkingstad and the three freed Indonesians from Moro National Liberation Front rebel chief Nur Misuari in Misuari’s rural stronghold near Sulu’s Indanan town, accompanied the Norwegian on a flight to southern Davao city, where the ex-hostage met President Rodrigo Duterte.

Duterte told Sekkingstad that his travails were over. Sekkingstad, newly shaved but looking gaunt in a loose polo shirt, thanked all those who worked for his freedom.

“I am very happy to be alive and free,” he said. “It’s a beautiful feeling.”

Sekkingstad was kidnapped from a yacht club he helped managed on southern Samal Island on Sept. 21, 2015, along with Canadians John Ridsdel and Robert Hall and Hall’s Filipino girlfriend, Marites Flor, sparking a massive land and sea search by Philippine forces.

The Abu Sayyaf demanded a huge ransom for the release of the foreigners, and released videos in which they threatened the captives in a jungle clearing where they displayed Islamic State group-style

black flags.

Ridsdel was beheaded in April and Hall was decapitated in June after ransom deadlines lapsed. When Flor was freed in June, she recounted in horror how the militants rejoiced while watching the beheadings.

Sekkingstad said he and his fellow captives were forced to carry the militants’ belongings and were kept in the dark on what was happening around them. At one point, he said, their heavily armed captors numbered more than 300.

“We were treated like slaves,” he said.

After the militants decapitated Ridsdel, Sekkingstad was threatened by the militants, who repeatedly told him, “You’re next.”

When the negotiations for his release began in recent months, Sekkingstad said the rebels began treating him better.

It was not immediately clear whether Sekkingstad had been ransomed off. Duterte suggested at a news conference last month that 50 million pesos (\$1 million) had been paid to the militants, but that they continued to hold on to him. The military said Saturday that relentless assaults forced the extremists to release the hostage.

‘Children’s cafeterias’ combat poverty, neglect in Japan

TOKYO (AP)—Laughter and lively chatter filled a room at a modest apartment in Tokyo one recent Thursday night as more than two dozen kids and volunteers gathered around tables laden with curry, rice, salad and fruits.

Misako Omura’s weekly dinner is one of a growing number of “kodomo shokudo,” or “children’s cafeterias,” that are springing up across Japan. The mostly grassroots efforts seek to address a range of child-related issues, from poverty to ensuring that those with late-working parents get a proper dinner. A tally by the national Asahi newspaper found 319 such places serving free or low-cost meals across Japan as

of May, up from 21 in 2013.

Over the past 70 years, Japan’s rising affluence has banished most of the penury of the lean years during and after World War II, when children sometimes starved and many families went hungry. But despite its ultra-modern conveniences, Japan had the 10th-highest child poverty rate among 31 relatively well-off countries in a 2013 UNICEF report.

Poverty in Japan is largely hidden, as it can lead to public shame and discrimination. Families often skimp on food and other necessities to ensure children are dressed well enough to avoid being seen as disadvantaged. Such children

might have smartphones but not the money to buy a 100-yen (\$1) box of juice or participate in a school field trip, said Setsuko Ito, who heads the child-rearing-support division in Tokyo’s working-class Arakawa district.

Omura started her weekly dinner in Arakawa in 2014 to create a space to welcome area children who might not get enough support from their families, schools and communities. Her initiative, supported by donations and a grant from the district office, is meant to counter a void left as communities hollow out and family ties unravel, leaving many parents and children isolated and struggling to cope. The

kids and volunteers pay 300 yen (\$3) for dinner.

“I hope everyone can develop a sense that each child is our child and understand that we are raising the children who will be supporting us as the next generation,” she said.

Omura emphasized that the children who come to her weekly dinners are not necessarily living in poverty. In some cases, they just have to dine alone because their parents are working late. She asked the Associated Press not to interview the children, out of concern that public exposure might lead to harassment at school and in their neighborhood, or even when applying for jobs in the future.

Philippine president seeking extension of bloody war on drugs

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine president said Sunday that he may need to extend a bloody government anti-drug campaign that has left more than 3,000 people dead and been slammed by the United States and others.

Acknowledging for the first time that he may not be able to keep his campaign promise to eradicate illegal drugs in no more than six months, President Rodrigo Duterte said in jest that with the huge number of people involved, “even if I wanted to, I cannot kill them all.”

Duterte said at a news conference in the southern city of Davao that he was overwhelmed by the enormity of the problem and may need to extend his self-imposed deadline by another six months to end the scourge. He won the May 9 election on an ambitious promise to end corruption and crime, especially illegal drugs, in three to six months.

More than 3,000 suspected drug dealers and traffickers have been killed in Duterte’s campaign against drugs since he assumed the presidency

in June, and 600,000 others, mostly drug users, have surrendered to authorities for fear they may be killed.

A law enforcement investigation, however, has turned up more names of people who are involved in the illegal drug trade, including many village leaders and mayors, Duterte said at the news conference. Duterte first built a name for his deadly crime-fighting style while serving as Davao’s long-time mayor before becoming president.

“I didn’t realize how severe and how serious the problem of drug menace in this republic (was) until I became president,” Duterte said.

“Even if I wanted to, I cannot kill them all because the last report would be this thick,” Duterte said, laughing.

President Barack Obama, U.N. officials and human rights watchdogs have raised concerns over the widespread killings, but Duterte has lashed back at them and other critics. He said that critics were impeding his battle against a problem that has worsened into a national security threat.



ASIAN BRIEFS

At least 13 reported to be killed in Thailand boat accident

BANGKOK (AP)—At least 13 people were killed Sunday when a double-decker passenger boat carrying more than 100 people capsized in a river north of Bangkok, Thai media reported. More than 30 people were hospitalized with injuries, but an unknown number were still missing after the accident, which occurred when the boat was involved in a collision Sunday afternoon while transporting passengers along the Chao Phraya river in Ayutthaya province, 80 kilometers (50 miles) north of Bangkok. It was not immediately clear what the boat had collided

with. TV Channel 7 and other media cited rescue workers as saying that 13 people were killed.

Gunmen kill 3 army soldiers in northwestern Pakistan

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—Two gunmen on a motorcycle killed three soldiers Sunday near the northwestern city of Peshawar, police said. The gunmen struck in Garhi Sohbat Khan on the outskirts of Peshawar, the capital of northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, attacking a private vehicle carrying the three soldiers. The attackers used handguns to target the soldiers, who were returning from a mili-

tary dairy farm after fetching milk for officers, Khan said. No one claimed responsibility, but Islamic militants have been involved in multiple such attacks in and around the provincial capital surrounded by lawless tribal regions. Dad Mohammad, another area police officer, said the incident was second of the nature in this area—which is close to Mohmand tribal region. Last week gunmen shot and killed a prominent physician who was instrumental in anti-polio campaigns, he said.

Pakistan faces calls to spare mentally ill man on death row

MULTAN, Pakistan (AP)—A rights group and

the family of a mentally ill man on death row in Pakistan have pleaded with the government to halt his execution. Imdad Ali was convicted in a 2001 murder case and has exhausted all appeals. A clemency request to Pakistan’s president was rejected, and he is due to be executed on Tuesday. Justice Project Pakistan said Sunday that state-appointed doctors diagnosed Ali with schizophrenia and declared him unfit to be hanged. His wife, Safia Bano, has called on the government to intervene. The Justice Project says Pakistan has executed 419 people since it lifted a ban on capital punishment in December 2014.

World

Syrian truce receives new blows with airstrikes, shelling

BEIRUT (AP)—Syria's fragile cease-fire started to unravel on Sunday with the first aerial attacks on rebel-held neighborhoods of Aleppo and a southern village that killed at least eight people, violations that came as tensions between the American and Russian brokers of the deal worsened following a deadly U.S. strike on Syrian government forces.

The air raid by the U.S.-led coalition killed dozens of Syrian soldiers and led to a harsh verbal attack on Washington by Damascus and Moscow. The U.S. military says it may have unintentionally struck Syrian troops while carrying out a raid against the Islamic State group in eastern Syria on Saturday.

The seven-day cease-fire is supposed to end at midnight Sunday, according to a Syrian army statement issued last week. The U.S. and Russia

have said that if it holds for seven days, it should be followed by the establishment of a Joint Implementation Center for both countries to coordinate the targeting of Islamic State and al-Qaida-linked militants.

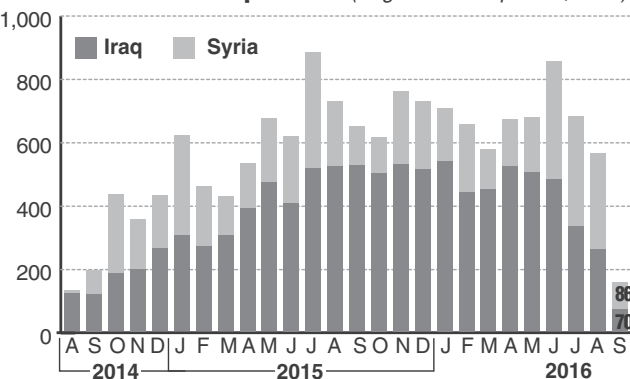
Despite largely holding, the cease-fire has been repeatedly violated by both sides, and aid convoys have not reached besieged rebel-held neighborhoods of Aleppo, Syria's largest city and one-time commercial center, which has been the center of violence in recent months. Aid delivery to Aleppo is part of the U.S.-Russia cease-fire deal.

Earlier this month, Syrian government forces and their allies captured areas they lost south of the city, re-imposing a siege on its opposition-held eastern neighborhoods. More than 2,000 people were killed in 40 days of fighting in the

Airstrikes in Iraq and Syria

According to a report by the independent monitoring group Airwars, 14,955 coalition airstrikes have been launched in Iraq and Syria. On Sept. 11, coalition military forces conducted 23 strikes against terrorists in Syria and Iraq. A cease-fire started Monday

Total number of strikes per month (Aug. 2014 – Sept. 11th, 2016)



Source: AP, Airwars
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

city, including 700 civilians, among them 160 children, according to a Syrian activist group.

Syrian state TV reported Sunday that dozens of residents had left rebel-held areas

in Aleppo and were taken to shelters in the government-controlled part of the city.

Also Sunday, Aleppo's governor, Hussein Diab, called on insurgents in the eastern neighborhoods to turn them-

selves in, hand over their weapons and take advantage of an amnesty decree issued recently by Syrian President Bashar Assad.

"We are at a new stage that requires making the decision to embrace reconciliation," Diab said in a statement carried by the state news agency, SANA. He urged insurgents to halt what he called the bloodshed and destruction and affirmed that all who turned themselves in and surrendered their weapons would be treated well and allowed to return to normal life.

Moscow laid the blame for Sunday's violence squarely on the opposition. Russian Defense Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Igor Konashenkov said in an emailed statement that both "terrorists and the opposition" are using the truce to "boost their forces and prepare for renewed hostilities."

Konashenkov says Moscow

still has not been able to contact the U.S.-backed opposition to coordinate cease-fire efforts despite Washington's assurances. He said the U.S. has not even tried to get the opposition to hold its fire.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry fired back in an interview with CNN, saying Russia needs to stop Assad from attacking the opposition and blocking aid delivery.

Kerry said Assad was a "spoiler" in the cease-fire, and called on Moscow to "stop the grandstanding, stop the showboating, and get the humanitarian assistance going."

Kerry also said it was important to set up the Joint Implementation Center in order to prevent the "terrible thing that happened yesterday, that we all acknowledge and regret but it happens when you have conflict." He appeared to be referring to the U.S.-led airstrikes in eastern Syria.

WORLD BRIEFS

Suicide car bomber kills Somali general in capital

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)—A powerful car bomb killed a Somali military general and five of his bodyguards in the capital Sunday, according to a Somali police officer. Gen. Mohamed Roble Jimale Gobanle and his bodyguards were killed when a suicide bomber detonated an explosives-laden vehicle next to the general's car near Somalia's defense ministry compound in Mogadishu, said Capt. Ali Nur. Gobanle was the commander of the Somali army's 3rd Brigade, a combat team fighting the al-Shabab Islamic extremists in southern Somalia. Al-Shabab, claimed the responsibility for the attack, according to the group's Andalus radio station. Al-Shabab, which is allied to al-Qaida, has been waging a deadly insurgency across large parts of Somalia and often uses suicide car bomb attacks.

Police rescue 15 kidnapped Nigerian oil workers

WARRI, Nigeria (AP)—Police rescued 14 kidnapped Nigerian oil workers and their driver after a gun battle that wounded several of their abductors in the oil-rich Niger Delta, a spokesman said Sunday. Gunmen abducted the employees of oil industry service company Nestoil on Sept. 2 near the southern oil capital, Port Harcourt. Police Deputy Superintendent Nnamdi Omoni said police acted on intelligence to attack

the kidnappers "den" in an operation that began Saturday and ended Sunday evening. The kidnappers escaped and none were arrested although several were wounded by police gunfire, Omoni told The Associated Press. One of the kidnap victims was in a state of shock and was taken to a hospital for treatment, Omoni said. The kidnappers had demanded a ransom of 100 million naira, which is about \$322,600. It was unclear if any money was paid.

Non-Aligned Movement states call for more inclusive UN

PORLAMAR, Venezuela (AP)—Member states of the Non-Aligned Movement called on Sunday for the United Nations to give more influence to developing countries. As the Cold War-era group wrapped up its 17th summit, its members said the U.N. should open the Security Council to more states and put more value on the self-determination of emerging powers. The 120-nation group's meeting was held on the Venezuelan resort island of Margarita. Few heads of state chose to attend as a crisis wracks this South American country, leading to widespread shortages and runaway crime. Venezuelan President Maduro said the U.N. should not only be reformed, it should be re-founded, with all nations on more equal footing. "This movement has the force, the leadership and the votes to decisively advance this transformation," he said.

UN holds first-ever summit on refugees and migrants

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The issue of what to do about the world's 65.3 million displaced people takes center stage at the United Nations General Assembly on Monday when leaders from around the globe converge on New York for the first-ever summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants.

With more people forced to flee their homes than at any time since World War II, leaders and diplomats are expected to approve a document aimed at unifying the U.N.'s 193 member states behind a more coordinated approach that protects the human rights of refugees and migrants.

"It's very interesting because if we are able to translate that paper into a

response in which many actors are going to participate, we will solve a lot of problems in emergency responses and in long-term refugee situations like the Syrian situation," Filippo Grandi, the U.N.'s High Commissioner for Refugees told The Associated Press.

That may prove an uphill struggle, however, as the document is not legally binding and comes at a time that refugees and migrants have become a divisive issue in Europe and the United States.

A number of countries rejected an earlier draft of the agreement that called on nations to resettle 10 percent of the refugee population each year, something that has led a number of human rights

groups to criticize the document as a missed opportunity. The U.S. and a number of other countries also objected to language in the original draft that said children should never be detained, so the agreement now says children should seldom, if ever, be detained.

"Instead of sharing responsibility, world leaders shirked it. The U.N. summit has been sabotaged by states acting in self-interest, leaving millions of refugees in dire situations around the world on the edge of a precipice," Amnesty International Secretary General Salil Shetty said in a statement.

Shetty said the agreement merely kicks the can down the road by calling for sepa-

rate global compacts for refugees and migrants to be adopted within two years.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, whose report on refugees and migrants laid the basis for the summit document, said he was aware of the criticism from non-governmental groups.

"While we all wish it could be a stronger outcome document... all 193 member states had to agree on their commitment. As you will see, my report was a strong one," Ban said. "I hope that, as the two compacts are adopted over the coming year and a half, some stronger language and commitment and elements from the report will reappear in the course of this negotiation."

Merkel's party loses support in Berlin state election

BERLIN (AP)—Chancellor Angela Merkel's party endured a second setback in a state election in two weeks on Sunday, as many voters turned to the left and right in Berlin, according to projections based on exit polls.

The Social Democrats (SPD) and Merkel's Christian Democratic Party (CDU) emerged from the Berlin state election as the strongest two parties, but both lost enough support that they won't be able to continue a coalition government, the projections show.

The SPD won 21.6 percent of the vote, dropping 6.7

percent, while the CDU won 17.5 percent, down 5.8 percent, ARD public television reported.

At the same time, the anti-capitalist Left Party, a descendant of the former East German communists, gained 4 percent to 15.7 percent overall and new nationalist anti-immigrant Alternative for Germany, known as the AfD, easily entered its 10th state parliament with 14.1 percent of the vote.

Voter participation was up to 66.6 percent from 60.2 percent in the last election, and the AfD drew a lot of its support from new voters, though

it was also able to attract supporters from both the SPD and CDU and other parties.

The vote comes two weeks after Merkel's CDU was beaten into third place in the eastern state of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania by the AfD, in which the chancellor's decision to open Germany's borders to migrants last year featured prominently. Sunday's showing—her party's worst ever in the capital—will keep up the pressure on the chancellor a year ahead of national elections.

However, it was largely local issues that drove the vote in the city of 3.5 million.

Among other things, disillusionment is high over the capital's notoriously inefficient bureaucracy and issues such as years of delays in opening its new airport.

Peter Tauber, the Christian Democrats' general secretary, blamed Social Democratic Mayor Michael Mueller for turning voters against the two governing parties, saying "the fish stinks from the head."

Mueller, however, said after the results that "We have achieved our goal."

"We are the strongest political party and we have a mandate to form a government," he said.

Focus

BEIRUT (AP)—Residents in the rebel-held districts of Aleppo now have a reprieve from the incessant bombings by Syrian government warplanes. They have a promise of an end to the crippling siege that has left produce stalls bare.

For nearly a week under the cease-fire brokered by the U.S. and Russia, families have been able to leave their homes and visit each other. Children play on swing-sets in the streets. Hospitals have gone to a normal routine of treating the sick and helping pregnant mothers, rather than struggling with those wounded by war.

Still, war-hardened residents of Aleppo's eastern districts—one of the last large urban centers defying President Bashar Assad—are skeptical the cease-fire will hold.

Many of them say the truce, which began last Monday, is a trap aimed at forcing them and rebel fighters to surrender. Some urge rebel fighters to rest and regroup, then resume fighting that they say is the only way to freedom.

Once Syria's largest city, Aleppo has been a horrific battleground since 2012, divided between government and rebel-held areas. Over the summer, the 250,000 people living in the opposition districts endured more than 40 days under complete blockade after government forces captured all roads out of the area.

Rebel reinforcements broke a hole in the blockade in August. But in heavy bombardment over the following weeks, more than 700 civilians were killed. Syrian troops backed by Russian airstrikes retook the roads and clamped the siege back on. Then the truce came into effect, sealing both sides' positions in place.

Here are voices from inside Aleppo, from residents and activists. Since access is impossible for journalists, all interviews were conducted through social media.

THE RESCUE WORKER

Ibrahim Alhaj doesn't have to wake up to the sound of barrel bombs that jolted him out of bed almost every day.

The 26-year-old was always one of the first on the scene whenever the crude but devastating bombs hit. He is a member of the Syrian Civil Defense, a group of volunteer first responders also known as the White Helmets. He films rescue efforts and documents any "double-tap" attacks—a



This Aug. 31, 2016 file photo, provided by the Syrian anti-government activist group Aleppo Media Center (AMC), shows Syrian boys dive into a hole filled with water that was caused by a missile attack in the rebel-held neighborhood of Sheikh Saeed in Aleppo province, Syria.

In Aleppo, besieged residents convinced truce will not last

By SARAH EL DEEB
ASSOCIATED PRESS

common government tactic of striking a target again shortly after the first hit to cause more casualties.

Alhaj, father of a 9-month-old child, carries his life in the palm of his hand, as the Arabic saying goes.

So he cherishes the few extra hours of sleep.

"In the last few days, we rested for a large part. We hope it lasts," said Alhaj, speaking in a Skype interview. "On the sixth anniversary of the revolution, we are tired."

The cease-fire coincided with the Islamic holiday of Eid al-Adha, which is celebrated with big family meals, new clothes and gifts.

Celebrations were muted. Alhaj dropped any hope of finding meat, but roaming the markets, he didn't even find fruits or vegetables. Only canned goods. Produce and meat get in only when the roads to the countryside are open.

Also, there's no fuel. So family visits are limited to relatives within walking distance. But at least Alhaj could take his wife and little boy out of the house after so long cooped up indoors.

On Friday, Alhaj returned to work—administrative work.

His group is nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. But he sees its role as bigger: In the future, civil defense will be needed to help rebuild—after Assad's fall, he hopes.

"We will be honored to build the new Syria and get rid of this sectarian regime," he said.

THE DOCTOR

Dr. Farida, the only female gynecologist in eastern Aleppo, now has the small luxury of working in a hospital that is not packed with war wounded and without the fear of being shelled as she operates.

On a single day this week, she delivered a baby and had two back-to-back emergency operations, including one to save an unborn baby. Then she returned home in the afternoon in time to receive guests for the holiday, took her daughter out to play in the park, and—she noted happily—she had a coffee outdoors in the park.

But she has little faith in this cease-fire.

"If they don't open a corridor to come and go and let out humanitarian cases,

what good is it?" she said. She spoke on condition she be identified only by her first name to protect family members who live in government-controlled areas.

So far, U.N. relief supplies have been unable to enter, waiting for the various sides to work out a corridor into rebel-held areas.

During the brief breach of the siege in August, the hospital secured a number of missing medicines against hemorrhages and other pregnancy emergencies. She worries this new stock will run out in less than a month.

What makes Farida more skeptical is that the truce allows for continued airstrikes against the Fatah al-Sham Front, the affiliate of al-Qaida in Syria formerly known as the Nusra Front.

It is one of the most powerful Syrian rebel factions and has been crucial on Aleppo's front lines defending opposition areas. Rebels say that if they break ranks with Fatah al-Sham or stand idly by while airstrikes hit the group, that will allow Assad's forces to retake the city. For Farida and other residents, the plan

to keep striking it simply aims to crush the resistance against Assad in the city and will spell the end of the cease-fire.

"Fatah al-Sham is the faction that defended us most," she said. "If it weren't for them, Aleppo would have been handed in long ago."

THE TEACHER

On the fourth day of the cease-fire, Wissam Zarqa started a new term teaching English and creative writing to adults.

It's part of a parallel education system that has sprung up in rebel-held areas, where volunteer teachers like the 34-year-old Zarqa hold classes using their own curricula.

With the quiet of the truce, Zarqa said he and his colleagues decided to start their third term of adult courses at the Institute of Language Studies, a private academy, a little earlier than planned. On Friday, he was in the classroom getting things ready, arranging chairs. There's no electricity, so they'll rely on LED batteries. In the past weeks of fighting and flight out of the city, the number of students has dropped from 20 to around 10. Still, classes are going strong.

Zarqa said the truce is doomed to fail because rebels don't accept that one faction will still be hit. He and other activists want the rebels to keep fighting. On Thursday, he joined a demonstration against letting in aid.

"We don't want aid to come through. We want (rebels) to fight to break the siege," he said. "We need this uprising to go on. The worst thing that can happen is to have a half-finished uprising."

Why spend the time teaching English?

"Even fighting should have someone who can understand the situation around. ... In (an) uprising you build and fight, if you have to."

THE VOLUNTEER

Mohammed Zein Khandakani, a 28-year old attorney, says the relief of a truce is incredible, given the months of horror.

"It is an unexplainable feeling to wake up and sleep to the sound and smell of bloodshed," he said. "Those killed are friends, families, innocent people who want to live only in peace, dignity and safety."

His greatest joy of the past week has been to take his two children and his widowed sister's children to the amusement park after four months locked inside.

He is also preparing for the start of classes at the medical center where he works as a volunteer, which aims to act as a teaching hospital for Assad-free districts. It was bombed three times, once with a blast that damaged even a floor two levels below ground.

The cease-fire has opened his dreams of a turning point after nearly six years of war in which "many have lost their minds." Families have been torn apart. His own father is in Germany, his mother and brother in Turkey, one sister in government-controlled areas, and the widowed sister with him in Aleppo, where her husband was killed in fighting.

"Imagine if it lasts," he said of the truce. "Imagine if the door opens, and the prison is no more."

But his hopes are clouded by worries. The truce's terms are murky. The haggling over the humanitarian convoys offends him.

"Are we locked-up animals that need food and drinks?" he said. Aleppo's people want to be free to come and go, not be penned in and dependent on convoys.

And ultimately, Aleppans won't accept surrender, he said.

"We don't want to leave our city and in the meantime, we don't want the return of Assad's rule to our city."

Overdrive

AUTO REVIEW:By **BARRY SPYKER**
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Rough and ready: Rugged Tacoma returns with new design, new power

The midsize truck segment has been kicking up some serious gravel the past couple of years, so it's no surprise the class-leading Toyota Tacoma has revved its engine to keep stride.

After General Motors caused some excitement by re-introducing the Chevy Colorado and GMC Canyon, Toyota, being careful to not ruin an already-strong formula, stepped up and revised its Tacoma.

Those loyal to the truck, its rugged looks, off-road performance and terrific resale value won't be disappointed with the latest offering, which impressively does what Tacomas have long done best.

You can't blame Toyota for not wanting to mess with success but you certainly can give it props for bestowing the Tacoma a new, stronger V-6 engine, better overall build quality, and a more refined, quieter cabin. Also, a GoPro camera mount now comes standard on all Tacomas, making it easy to capture off-road outings.

The new 3.5-liter engine, based on a smooth-running unit found in numerous Toyota vehicles, is mated to a new six-speed automatic transmission. A six-speed manual transmission with a special feature that allows in-gear startup—helpful in preventing rollback on hills—is available on all-wheel-drive models.

The new engine replaces the last-generation 4-liter and is good for 278 horsepower and 265 pound-feet of torque. It has ample pep, with 42 more horses than its predecessor, but is slightly slower in reaching 60 mph. Properly equipped

with the \$650 tow package, it can pull up to 6,800 pounds.

On the lower trims, the SR and SR5, a smaller 2.7-liter engine carries over from last year. On all trims, only an extended cab and a smaller "access" cab are available.

Those heading off-road will appreciate that all Tacomas now boast a raised suspension and 9.4 inches of ground clearance, a feature once re-

up mud, the TRD Off Road trim, with its skid plates and 32-degree approach angle, is no doubt the way to go.

All Tacomas also now feature Toyota's Crawl Control system, which offers better grip and improved control of braking and power during

drivers pick between terrain settings for rock, loose rock, dirt, mud and sand.

More of a street guy? The new TRD Sport trim offers stiffer Bilstein shocks, limited-slip rear differential and a sporty-but-fake hood scoop.

On-road comfort is im-

Enhanced insulation makes the cabin quieter, too, although off-road tires on 18-inch wheels will exaggerate road noise. Despite the stiffer off-road suspension, Tacoma tackles the road bumps well enough.

Steering is crisp and responsive and weighted just right.

Braking is sensitive but not annoyingly so. Oddly, Tacoma still has drum brakes in the rear (apparently better for

tem with brake assist.

The interior received a much-needed modernization, although a few things were ignored. There's still no way to program seat settings (OK if you're not sharing your truck), and there's no smart cruise control.

Toyota's Entune system uses a 6.2-inch or 7-inch touchscreen that pales, graphically, compared to some systems. It is, however, responsive and easy enough to learn. The system also features an expansive app suite that includes Bing, Pandora and Facebook Places, to name a few.

Front seats are comfortable but, perhaps since headroom is tight, do not offer height adjustment. Another peculiarity is the telescoping feature of the steering wheel—it comes out about an inch, and that may not be enough for taller folks with the seat pushed back. Bottom line: This is a cabin you need to test drive for personal fit.

Backseat room is plentiful in the crew cab version, but just enough for kids in the access cab.

There are two cargo beds available with the double cab, a 5-foot short bed and a 6-foot long bed; the access cab truck comes only with the long bed. A plastic bed liner is standard, as are eight tie-down cleats.

Tacoma comes in five trim levels, topping out with the 4x4 Limited. While none are laden with advanced safety features, rear back-up camera and blind-spot monitor with cross-traffic alert are available.

There is more pep and ride comfort in the midsize truck marketplace. But if you want a truck that looks rugged and is in fact rugged, and has had an incomparable resale reputation, the Tacoma is hard to beat.



TNS
The 2016 Toyota Tacoma has a new 3.5-liter V-6, and a more refined and quieter cabin.

NUTS & BOLTS 2016 Toyota Tacoma

As tested (Limited 4x4 double cab): \$40,020

What's all the excitement about? Tacoma gets a full redesign but remains its

rugged self.

■ **Powertrains:** New 3.5-liter, 278-horsepower V-6 engine with 8-speed automatic; 2.7-liter 4-cylinder

on base truck.

■ **How's the performance?** Standout off-road capability with new crawl-control system and 9.4

inches ground clearance.

■ **What about fuel economy?** EPA-estimated 20 mpg combined (18 city, 23 highway).

MOTORING Q&A: Don't worry: Car will ignore gear shift at high speedBy **PAUL BRAND**
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: I recently took a test drive in a 2011 Lexus RX350. Since this car did not have a navigation system, I asked about a backup camera. The guy driving with me indicated that it appeared in the mirror, and proceeded to move the selector from drive to reverse at about 30 mph. The camera came on and there was no change in the rpm or forward motion.

A: That's because the engine management system is smart enough to know that allowing the transmission to engage reverse while moving forward at speed would do the transmission no good at all. The

backup camera came on simply because the shift lever was moved to the reverse position.

Hopefully the driver—was he the owner or a salesman?—must have known the transmission wouldn't engage reverse at speed. He was either trying to impress you with his knowledge or if he didn't know, he was a very lucky idiot.

Q: We have a 1993 Chevy Lumina with a 3.1-liter V-6. Every now and then the motor will turn over but not start. We wait a few minutes and it fires right up. This happens after we go some place for an hour or so. Battery cables are clean and tight. I installed new plugs, wires and a new exhaust gas recir-

ulation valve. I brought it to our mechanic but he couldn't figure it out. Any help would really be appreciated.

A: The first step is to check for any diagnostic fault codes stored in the powertrain control module. If none are found, think in terms of fuel pressure and spark—an internal combustion engine cannot start without both of these. Could it be vapor lock, where the ready fuel supply in the fuel rail under the hood is heated to the point that the fuel boils, causing a loss of fuel pressure? Or could it be caused by an overheated ignition module located under the coil packs?

To help the diagnostic process and point your mechanic in the right direction, check

for spark with a timing light while cranking the non-starting engine. Also, with a fuel pressure gauge connected to the test port on the fuel rail, run the engine up to full temperature and then monitor fuel pressure bleed-down after shutdown.

If it seems to be a fuel pressure issue, next time it happens cycle the key on for two seconds, then off. Do this six times, then try starting the engine. If it starts, you've confirmed a fuel pressure issue.

If there's no spark, try cooling the ignition module by misting the area around the module with a spray bottle of water. If this expedites starting, high underhood temperatures may be the issue.

Q: I have a 2007 PT Cruiser with 24,000 miles. I change the oil each year, but nothing else. It's working fine. What about plugs, transmission, brake fluid, antifreeze, etc.? I am keeping the car. What do you recommend?

A: Your extraordinarily low annual mileage—roughly 2,400 miles per year—certainly extends maintenance intervals, but does not eliminate them. Check your owner's manual. Besides changing oil and filter as you've been doing, my ALldata automotive database calls for tire rotation every 5,000 miles, spark plug and air filter replacement at 30,000 miles and a coolant flush at 50,000 miles. There is no call for

transmission service. I would recommend either bleeding the brakes to exchange old brake fluid for new, or at least siphoning the master cylinder nearly empty and refilling it with fresh brake fluid every two years.

Motoring note: Thanks to an anonymous reader for this: "I just read the question about how to fix a screechy belt. I had a similar problem and I replaced belts and checked the tension—the usual stuff. My brother suggested that the pulleys might be out of alignment. Sure enough, the mechanic checked and found that one pulley was not in alignment with the others. He made the adjustment and no more screeching."

Life & Style

'Game of Thrones,' 'Veep' take top honors at Emmys

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Game of Thrones" conquered the Emmy kingdom Sunday, honored as top drama for the second consecutive year and becoming the most honored prime-time TV series ever on a night of surprises and sharp political jabs.

"Veep" repeated as best comedy series and its star, Julia-Louis Dreyfus, won a record-breaking sixth Emmy as best comedy actress. Jeffrey Tambor's trophy as top comedy actor for "Transparent" also was his second.

But the top drama acting trophies were far from predictable: Rami Malek of "Mr. Robot" and Tatiana Maslany of "Orphan Black" were the winners, both overcoming heavy-weight competition.

"Oh, my God. Please tell me you're seeing this too," said a stunned Malek, who plays an emotionally troubled engineer caught up in a dangerous hacking conspiracy.

"Games of Thrones," the fantasy saga based on George R.R. Martin's novels, received a total of 12 awards Sunday and at last weekend's technical arts ceremony for a cumulative 38, besting "Frasier" by one to claim most prime-time



series awards ever.

The Emmys proved more adroit than the Oscars at recognizing and honoring diver-

sity in Hollywood's top ranks, with trophies going to minority actors and behind-the-scenes artists including writers

Aziz Ansari and Alan Yang of "Master of None."

But Viola Davis of "How to Get Away with Murder"

AP
Julia Louis-Dreyfus accepts the award for outstanding lead actress in a comedy series for "Veep" at the 68th Primetime Emmy Awards on Sunday, Sept. 18, 2016, at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

failed to repeat her 2015 best drama actress win, the first for a woman of color.

Louis-Dreyfus used her victory to take a dig at GOP contender Donald Trump in a ceremony loaded with election-year asides.

Jeffrey Tambor captured his second consecutive best comedy actor trophy for "Transparent," in which he plays a transgender character.

He called for Hollywood to make him the last non-transgender actor to get such a role.

A shaking Louis-Dreyfus ended her speech by dedicating the trophy to her father, who she said died Friday. Before that, she honed in on GOP contender Donald Trump's campaign.

"I'd also like to take this opportunity to personally apologize for the current political climate," she said. "I think that 'Veep' has torn down the wall between comedy and politics.

Our show started out as a political satire but it now feels more like a sobering documentary."

She promised to "rebuild that wall and make Mexico pay for it."

Her victory gave her six best comedy wins—five for "Veep," one for "The New Adventures of Old Christine"—and broke her tie with Candice Bergen and Mary Tyler Moore.

Maggie Smith was honored as best supporting actress in a drama series for the final season of "Downton Abbey." It was her third win for playing the formidable dowager. As became her custom, she didn't attend the ceremony.

Ben Mendelsohn of "Bloodline" won as best supporting drama actor and also was a no-show.

John Oliver captured the best variety talk series award for "Last Week Tonight with John Oliver," besting competitors including Jerry Seinfeld and host Jimmy Kimmel—who received barbed consolation on stage from Matt Damon, his longtime faux nemesis. The loss "makes a lot of sense," Damon said.

"The People v. O.J. Simpson," which earned the second-highest number of nominations, converted five to trophies Sunday.

The dramatic retelling of the football star's murder trial was honored as best limited series and writing, and earned awards for stars Courtney B. Vance, Sterling K. Brown and Sarah Paulson.

"Obama out, Hillary in," Vance said as he wrapped his victory speech.

Regina King claimed the award for supporting actress in a limited series for "American Crime," her second trophy for the program.

Louie Anderson was honored as best supporting actor in a comedy series for his portrayal of a loving but tough mom in "Baskets."

"Mom, we did it!," Anderson shouted, hoisting his trophy and dedicating the award to his late mother, Ora Zella Anderson. "I have not always been a good man but I play one hell of a woman."

"Saturday Night Live" cast member Kate McKinnon won the trophy for best supporting actress in a comedy for, officially, playing various characters. But she knew who to credit.

"Thank you, Ellen DeGeneres, thank you, Hillary Clinton," she said, naming two of the famous people she's caricatured on the show.

A mixed red carpet in colors and cut for the Emmys

Kerry Washington, always a red carpet favorite, won the Emmys red carpet Sunday, showing off her huge baby bump in a black custom Brandon Maxwell strapless gown with daring cutouts, her hair long, loose and curly.

"She was dressing for two and got the proportions just right," said Rickie De Sole, fashion market director for W magazine.

"It was sexy but not overtly sexy. That's why she's so successful on the red carpet. It was unexpected and fun," De Sole added.

Also earning raves: Sarah Paulson in an emerald green, low-cut encrusted Prada gown as she walked the carpet with Marcia Clark, the prosecutor she played on FX's "People vs. O.J. Simpson."

"It felt very unexpected, very red carpet but modern in its silhouette," De Sole said.

Kristen Bell went with a low-cut champagne-colored chiffon ballgown with just enough sparkle running through its floral print at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

Tori Kelly touted Old Hollywood waves, feeling fall in

a black-as-night strapless velvet mermaid gown for TV's biggest night.

Bell's crystal-flecked gown from Zuhair Murad matched her wheat-colored locks, worn loose and wavy. Pryanka Chopra, meanwhile, smoothed her dark locks back and went for red from Jason Wu with side cutouts, twirling her princess skirt wearing a lip shade that perfectly matched the gown.

"I loved the fit, the one shoulder and the way it cinched her waist," Beverly Hills fashion stylist Joseph Katz said of Chopra's princess moment. "It just popped on the red carpet. And the twirl. That's what it's all about, showing the flow and movement. She nailed it."

Ariel Winter sparkled in silver that hugged her curves and Sarah Hyland wore bold, black cigarette pants with a white embroidered floral strapless top. It had a split back and two long sections as a train, from Monique Lhuillier.

Kelly, with her sweetheart neckline, was on trend with her velvet look, after



AP
Kerry Washington arrives at the 68th Primetime Emmy Awards on Sunday, Sept. 18, 2016, at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

several designers rolled out velvet at New York Fashion Week. So was Kathryn

Hahn in emerald green velvet with a deep V-neck and metallic lace detailing.

"I chose it because I just love, like, no bra, just kind of after two children, just a saggy boob in the heat," Hahn joked. "That's what kind of sold it for me. I thought it had a bit of a Scarlett O'Hara, whipped-it-up-with-the-curtains kind of feel."

Kelly's designer was Paule Ka. Hahn wore Wai Ming. Both kept their jewelry to a minimum, with Kelly in elegant drop diamond earrings. Hahn's look crossed at the back, lending some pizzazz.

Hyland's gown sported an icicle motif and celebrated her curves as she spoke about the importance of body positivity.

"Everybody's bodies are beautiful," she said.

Ellie Kemper, meanwhile, celebrated in a bright, citrus yellow Jenny Packham that cinched at the waist, just a few weeks after having a baby. Her hair was smooth as silk and swept to the side as she smiled for photographers. Her jewels were from Neil Lane, including dainty diamond and gold drop earrings.

"It's life changing," Kemper told E! of the birth of her son in early August.

Kimmel blames producer Mark Burnett for Trump

NEW YORK (AP)—Presidential politics wasn't far from mind at the Emmy Awards.

Former GOP presidential candidate Jeb Bush had a cameo on host Jimmy Kimmel's opening comedy segment and Kimmel referenced Republican nominee Donald Trump in his monologue, pointing out the man in the audience who made him a television star. Later, "Veep" Emmy winner Julia Louis-Dreyfus "apologized" for the current political climate.

"Thanks to Mark Burnett, we don't have to watch reality shows anymore, because we're living them," Kim-

mel said. Burnett cast Trump in "The Apprentice," the hit series that gave him a catchphrase ("you're fired") and a larger public profile.

"If it wasn't for television, would Donald Trump be running for president?" Kimmel asked.

Bush portrayed the limo driver for Louis-Dreyfus. "Did you know you can make \$12 an hour driving for Uber?" he asked Kimmel.

Bush asked Kimmel if he was a nominee, and when Kimmel said yes, Bush said, "Wow, what's that like?"

He told Kimmel that if he



AP
Host Jimmy Kimmel appears at the 68th Primetime Emmy Awards on Sunday, Sept. 18, 2016, at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

as best actress in a comedy for her lead role in the HBO comedy, said "Veep" has "torn down the wall between comedy and politics."

"Our show started out as political satire," she said, "but now it feels like a sober documentary."

She promised to "rebuild that wall and make Mexico pay for it."

For her part, Kate McKinnon thanked Hillary Clinton when she accepted her best supporting actress in a comedy series award for her work on "Saturday Night Live."

ran a positive campaign, the voters will ultimately make

the right choice. "That was a joke," he quickly added.

Louis-Dreyfus, accepting her fifth consecutive Emmy

Green Day postpones 3 shows, cancels fourth

NEW YORK (AP)—Green Day has postponed the first three dates of its upcoming tour and canceled a fourth show due to illness, the band

announced Sunday.

Concerts will be rescheduled in St. Louis, Chicago and Detroit, and a fourth concert in Toronto is being canceled.

Tickets will be refunded, the band said.

"We're so sad to announce we have to postpone three shows and cancel Toronto,"

said the band. "Many of us have been battling this infection for days on end to be ready, and it just got the best of us."

'La La Land' wins top prize at Toronto film festival

TORONTO (AP)—The top award at the Toronto International Film Festival went Sunday to Damien Chazelle's "La La Land," a modern-day musical starring Emma Stone and Ryan Gosling that's been the sensation of the fall film festival circuit.

The film received the festival's People's Choice Award, which is determined by audience voting. "La La Land" is expected to be a top contender for the Best Picture Oscar.

Toronto's audience award has previously been a harbinger of awards season success. Past winners include "12 Years a Slave" and "The

King's Speech."

The film, scheduled for December release, stars Stone as an aspiring actress in Los Angeles who, in between soul-crushing auditions, meets a jazz pianist (Gosling) trying to stay true to the music he's devoted himself to.

Since premiering at the Venice Film Festival, "La La Land" has been an answer to those who say movies aren't what they once were and that television is better now.

Chazelle wrote the script to "La La Land" about six years ago, but his pleas to make the film went unanswered until his 2014 break-



AP
In a Sept. 12, 2016 file photo, Ryan Gosling, right, and Emma Stone arrive on the red carpet for the film "La La Land" during the 2016 Toronto International Film Festival in Toronto.

through, the Oscar-winning "Whiplash," about an aspiring jazz drummer.

Stone, who won best ac-

tress at Venice, previously starred with Gosling, a native Canadian, in "Crazy, Stupid, Love."

'Sound of Music' actress Charmian Carr dies at 73

LOS ANGELES

(AP)—Charmian Carr, the actress best known for sweetly portraying the eldest von Trapp daughter in Rogers & Hammerstein's "The Sound of Music,"



a department store.

"It's always sad when a member of the family passes away—and in the case of the 'family' of the movie 'The Sound of Music,' it's especially sad when it

is the first of the group to go," said Ted Chapin, president of the Rogers & Hammerstein organization, in a statement. "Charmian Carr played the oldest von Trapp child, and in some ways she maintained that role in real life—guiding, cheering, supporting and generally being there for the rest of her 'sisters' and 'brothers.'"

20th Century Fox, the studio that produced the "Sound of Music" film, noted Carr's death. "The Sound of Music lost a beloved member of the family w/ the passing of Charmian Carr. She will be forever missed," the studio said on its Twitter account.

Carr died Saturday of complications from a rare form of dementia in Los Angeles, Carr's spokesman, Harlan Boll, said.

At age 21, the actress portrayed Liesl von Trapp in the 1965 film version of the musical "The Sound of Music." She famously performed the song "Sixteen Going on Seventeen."

After "The Sound of Music," Carr's only other major Hollywood role was starring with Anthony Perkins in the Stephen Sondheim television musical "Evening Primrose." She played a mysterious young woman who lived in

Grandparents don't approve of kids' creative clothing

DEAR ABBY: While our 6-year-old enjoys the positive attention he receives from his often unusual and imaginative clothing choices, his grandparents feel we are being "disrespectful to others" by allowing him and our other children to wear these outfits in public.

Neither my husband nor I was permitted freedom of expression as children, and we agreed that with the exception of health, profanity, lewdness, immodesty and adherence to organizational dress codes, that we would not restrict our children's freedom of expression. While we often don't agree with our children's choice of attire, it seems prudent to choose the battles we fight.

Is anyone other than our parents actually offended by a pirate (sans weapon) in the dentist office, or a backward shirt at the grocery store? And if they are offended, does their desire not to see a costumed child trump my children's need for a healthy outlet for their individuality during this phase of their life over which they have so little control?

CLARK KENT'S MOM

DEAR CLARK KENT'S MOM: I seriously doubt that anyone other than your parents and in-laws cares at all if your children visit the dentist looking like Clark Kent, a

cowboy or his horse. As far as I'm concerned, your children should be allowed to exercise their sartorial creativity. It's harmless. A few years from now they'll be getting pressure from peers about fitting in, so let them enjoy themselves while they can.

DEAR ABBY: I have been through quite a bit of turmoil in the last two years. My boyfriend died last year. We had been together for 13 years. He was only 32 and his death was unexpected.

I am realizing now that I didn't handle my grief very well. I had no real support system at the time and soon after he passed, I reconnected with an old flame I had been in contact with on and off through the years. We have become somewhat serious, but I realize that before I can go further with this relationship, I must deal with the feelings of grief that I have for the loss of my boyfriend.

Any advice that you could provide would be greatly appreciated. I am at a loss on how to move forward in a healthy way.

LOST IN SAN FRANCISCO

DEAR LOST: I'm sorry for the loss of your longtime boyfriend, but I'm glad you wrote. That you recognize you

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

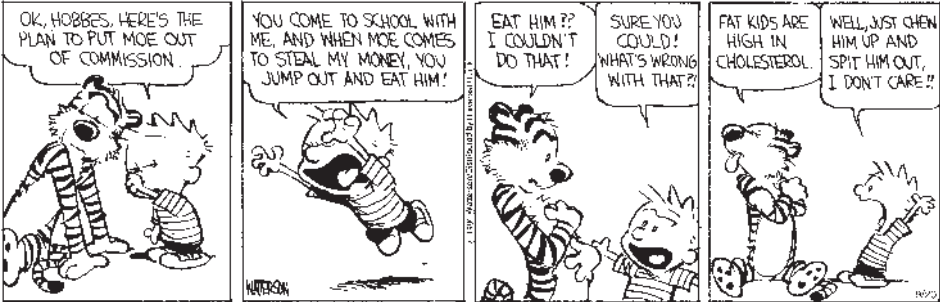
need help to process his loss before you can move forward takes an admirable sense of self-awareness. If you have a doctor or a health insurer, ask for a referral to a licensed mental health professional (a psychologist, social worker, etc.). That person can help you to work through your unresolved emotions by seeing you privately, or by referring you to a grief support group.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



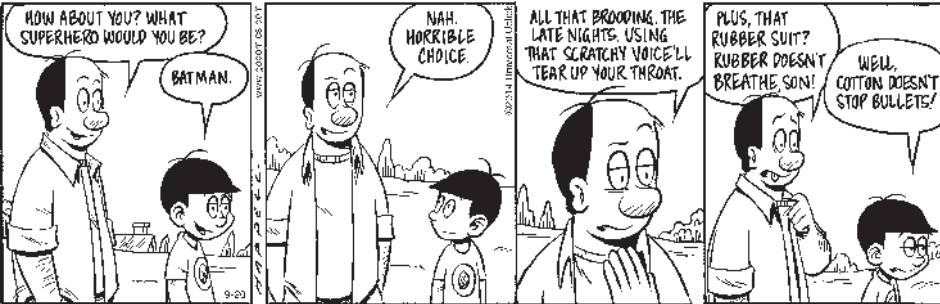
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Audition CD

5 Grouch

9 Hot tub

12 And others (Lat.)

13 Mystique

14 For each

15 Lothario

17 Granola grain

18 Joe Biden, e.g.

19 Lollygag

21 Photographer Adams

24 Pretzel seasoning

25 Youngsters

26 "OK" gesture

30 Praise in verse

31 Hotel accommodations

32 Calendar abbr.

33 Face-covering nursery game

35 Hourly pay

36 Low-calorie

37 Firms up

38 Video chat format

40 Saab model

42 On in years

43 Chock full o'Nuts container

48 Narc's org.

49 Oodles

50 Uncivil

51 Capitol Hill VIP

52 Cribbage scorers

53 Membership

DOWN

1 N.J. neighbor

2 Greek vowel

3 Frenzied

4 Martini garnishes

5 Job for Holmes

6 Kind of roast

7 Altar constellation

8 Small chickens

9 Stadium attendee

10 Bartlett, for one

11 Bohemian

16 Slithery fish

20 Cleric's tunic

21 Perched on

22 Protuberance

23 "Deacon Blues" band

24 Wrestling style

26 Fit — tied (irate)

27 "Yoo—!"

28 Incite

29 Slapstick arsenal

31 Limit on a loan

34 Olympic runner

35 Suitors

37 Three, in Rome

38 Lays down the lawn

39 Swiss artist Paul

40 In — (dazed)

41 New news

44 World Cup cheer

45 Prompt

46 Oklahoma city

47 Court divider

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterday's answer 9-20

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Juan Pablo Montoya, 41; Kristen Johnston, 49; Gary Cole, 60; Sophia Loren, 82.

Happy Birthday: Learn from experience. Ask questions and speak openly about the way you feel and what you want to see happen. Short trips, spending time with family and getting together with old friends are all highlighted. A home improvement project will raise your standard of living and ease your stress. Don't expect everyone to be happy with the choices you make. Your numbers are 5, 12, 18, 27, 34, 40, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Check personal financial papers and consider the best way to save. Travel, joint ventures and finding common ground with someone you love will help you bring about positive changes. A practical career move can be made. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Step up and take over. Show your strengths and proceed to the finish line. Putting a little force behind your plans will help you establish your position. Communication will ensure that everyone you summon to help will do a good job. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't go halfway when finishing what you start will ensure that your reputation continues to thrive. It's important to go through the physical motions to get things up and running properly. Face your challenges head-on. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't let a personal relationship mess with your emotions. Focus on what you can do to improve your home and domestic relationships. Talks will help you find solutions. Use compassion and persuasion to improve family ties. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll face added stress if you let the little things bother you. Instead of wasting time worrying, check out your options and connect with people who can offer a different perspective on what's happening. Romance and physical activity are encouraged. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A business trip, meeting or taking a course that will put you in touch with people who share your concerns is encouraged. Don't make purchases that are superficial or unnecessary. Spend on knowledge, not appearance. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put time, effort and money into your home and family to avoid complaints. Think big, but don't go over budget. A realistic approach to how you handle your finances will leave you with plenty left over for a romantic getaway. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You've got the knowledge and mindset of a leader, so don't hesitate to put your ideas into play. You can make a difference within an organization you care about. An unexpected change will end up being beneficial. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't lose sight of what you have been asked to do. Your success will depend on your ability to get things done without wasting time. A change at home will help to improve an important relationship with someone you love. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Get out and socialize or network with people who can motivate and inspire you to try new things. Your drive and determination will help you find unique ways to turn an idea you have into a profitable venture. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Communication is best handled with care. Someone will be offended if you aren't diplomatic about how you present your thoughts. Offering incentives will help you get what you want. Romance will help you ease your stress. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take better care of your health. Added stress will be caused by emotional issues that result from a lack of communication. Face problems head-on and do your best to find solutions that suit everyone's needs. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are smart, understanding and practical. You are inquisitive and thorough.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★★

9/20

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	2	4	1	7	9	5	6	3
5	1	3	8	6	2	9	4	7
9	6	7	5	4	3	8	1	2
2	4	1	3	8	5	7	9	6
6	5	8	9	2	7	4	3	1
3	7	9	6	1	4	2	8	5
4	9	5	7	3	6	1	2	8
1	3	2	4	5	8	6	7	9
7	8	6	2	9	1	3	5	4

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

WATER MOCCASINS Solution: 7 letters

SEHCNARBCKEMVSA
RLSEHCTIDCTAECB
OSGNAFXRAEINNOM
TWISAOIDENBGOTA
AASDTPI SOPGRMTM
GMGNERISHRIOOOP
IPOAOSTUONSVUNO
LSRLGRTURTLESMD
LLFGINPGAPERSON
AWTLEHOSGGAEUS
ROSDBETLAVXTSTN
EJOALRACIEITGHA
TRSAAOIRTHOLOIK
ASCPCNLHWUEELCE
WSRKS BUT STRIKE

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Alligators, Bass, Bite, Black, Branches, Cage, Cottonmouth, Ditches, Eggs, Fangs, Florida, Frogs, Gaper, Glands, Group, Herons, Jowls, Logs, Mamba, Mangrove, Neck, Nostrils, Ponds, Rattler, Rivers, Rodent, Scale, Sides, Snake, Snap, Snouts, Stout, Strike, Stub, Swamps, Tail, Texas, Thick, Toxic, Traps, Turtles, Venomous, Viper, Water, White

Yesterday's Answer: Underground
To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 or 47, order online at: www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

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ITB NO.: ITB16-BECQ-177

SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 12, 2016 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

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/S/ FRANK M. RABAULIMAN
ADMINISTRATOR OF BECQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-DOC-162

SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 12, 2016 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM – A PROJECT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS”

THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

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COMMISSIONER, EPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-SOF-053

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2016 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“FUEL SUPPLY/ FLEET CARD SYSTEM A PROJECT UNDER THE SECRETARY OF FINANCE”

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Mets sweep Twins, take lead in NL wild card race



NEW YORK (AP)—Their rotation ravaged, the Mets handed the ball to a rookie for his first major league start.

Their late-inning relievers run down, they allowed a 33-year-old left-handed specialist to face the big leagues' No. 2 home-run hitter with two outs in the ninth.

With veterans tired after an extra-inning win, backups filled many of the starting spots.

In yet another surprising September turn, Gabriel Ynoa struck out eight over 4 2/3 innings, Jerry Blevins fanned Brian Dozier to complete a four-out save and New York completed a three-game sweep of the woeful Minnesota Twins with a 3-2 victory Sunday.

Michael Conforto drove in two runs with a first-inning, opposite-field single to left, his first multi-RBI game since June 8. T.J. Rivera, a Bronx-born 27-year-old rookie, added a third-inning homer off Kyle Gibson (6-10).

"This is our season in a nutshell," Blevins said.

A season-high 11 games over .500, the Mets won for the 11th time in 14 games despite benching Jose Reyes, Asdrubal Cabrera, James Loney, Curtis Granderson and Jay Bruce from the starting lineup after Saturday's late-night win, powered by Granderson's home runs in the 11th and 12th innings.

New York opened a one-game lead over San Francisco for the NL wild-card lead, with St. Louis another game back. The Mets' 13 remaining games are against teams with losing records: Atlanta, Philadelphia and Miami.

Cardinals 3, Giants 0

In San Francisco, Alex Reyes pitched seven dominant innings in his third major league start, fellow rookie Aledmys Diaz hit a two-run homer and

the St. Louis Cardinals moved up in the tight NL wild-card race, blanking the San Francisco Giants.

The Giants dropped one game behind the New York Mets for the top wild-card spot. The Cardinals closed within one game of San Francisco.

Reyes (3-1), considered one of the majors' best pitching prospects, gave up four hits, struck out six and walked two.

Red Sox 5, Yankees 4

In Boston, Hanley Ramirez homered twice and drove in four runs to rally Boston, completing a four-game sweep that severely diminished New York's chances of winning the AL East.

Jackie Bradley Jr. had a tying RBI single for the East-leading Red Sox, who overcame a rough start by Drew Pomeranz to post their ninth win in 12 games. Boston remained three games ahead of second-place Baltimore, which beat Tampa Bay 2-1 on Sunday.

The Red Sox open a 10-game trip at Baltimore with the first of four games on Monday night.

Gary Sanchez belted his 16th homer since Aug. 3 for the Yankees, who dropped eight back in the division and remained four behind Toronto for the second wild-card spot.

Tigers 9, Indians 5

In Cleveland, Ian Kinsler got his helmet knocked off by a pitch from Trevor Bauer, yelled at the Cleveland right-hander and later was ejected in Detroit's win.

The Tigers defeated the AL Central leaders for only the second time in 15 tries this season. Miguel Cabrera added his 2,500th career hit as Dr

Bauer (11-8) hit three batters, including Kinsler in the third.

Kinsler grabbed the side of his head, was examined and went to first. Kinsler shouted at Bauer when he scored.



AP
New York Mets starting pitcher Gabriel Ynoa delivers against the Minnesota Twins in the first inning of a baseball game, Sunday, Sept. 18, 2016, in New York.

Kansas City.

Duffy (12-2) struck out eight.

Todd Frazier hit his 37th homer, a White Sox record for a third baseman.

Braves 6, Nationals 2

In Atlanta, Adonis Garcia drove in three runs, Matt Wisler pitched five-plus innings and Atlanta beat the NL East leaders in a rain-shortened game.

The game ended in the bottom of the seventh after a second delay that lasted 1 hour, 50 minutes.

Wisler (7-12) allowed two runs.

Brewers 3, Cubs 1

In Chicago, major league ERA leader Kyle Hendricks allowed two runs in six innings for the NL Central champion Chicago in a loss to Milwaukee.

Hendricks (15-8), making his first start since losing a no-hit bid in the ninth inning at St. Louis, struck out nine. His ERA rose from 2.03 to 2.06.

Reds 7, Pirates 4

In Cincinnati, Joey Votto hit his 25th homer, Tucker Barnhart tied his career high with four RBI and Cincinnati ended Pittsburgh's four-game winning streak.

Votto finished with four hits as the Reds stopped their four-game skid.

Dan Straily (13-8) got the win. Ivan Nova (12-7) had been 5-0 since being traded from the Yankees to Pittsburgh on Aug. 1.

Marlins 5, Phillies 4

In Philadelphia, J.T. Realmuto delivered a go-ahead infield single in the eighth inning and Miami rallied to avoid a sweep.

Reliever Mike Dunn (4-1) won in relief and A.J. Ramos pitched a scoreless ninth for his 37th save.

With the Marlins trailing 4-2 in the eighth, Christian Yelich hit a two-run homer off Hector Neris (4-4).

Rockies 6, Padres 3

In Denver, Mark Reynolds homered in the fourth inning and Chad Bettis pitched into the sixth for Colorado.

San Diego played a day after Yangervis Solarte lost his wife, Yuliett, following a battle with cancer. The third baseman was with his family Sunday—before the game the Rockies held a moment of silence for her.

Orioles 2, Rays 1

In Baltimore, Mark Trumbo hit his major league-leading 43rd home run to break an eighth-inning tie and carry Baltimore.

Manny Machado also homered for the Orioles, who lead Toronto by one game for the top AL wild-card spot.

Trumbo homered off Ryan Garton (1-1).

Brad Brach (10-3) pitched the eighth and Zach Britton got three outs for his 45th save in 45 tries.

Angels 4, Blue Jays 0

In Anaheim, Mike Trout and Albert Pujols each scored twice, Alex Meyer gave up

two hits in five innings for his first career win and Los Angeles beat Toronto.

The Blue Jays fell out of a tie with Baltimore for the top AL wild-card spot.

Meyer (1-3) struck out a career-best seven and walked three. Marcus Stroman (9-9) went six innings.

The game was delayed for 13 minutes in the bottom of the third inning because of bees on the field.

Mariners 7, Astros 3

In Seattle, Seth Smith hit two home runs and Seattle moved up in the AL wild-card race.

Smith drove in four runs to

back Ariel Miranda (5-1).

The Mariners are one game behind Toronto for the second wild-card spot.

Doug Fister (12-12) took the loss.

Diamondbacks 10, Dodgers 9, 12 innings

In Phoenix, Brandon Drury singled with two outs in the 12th inning to score Paul Goldschmidt, lifting Arizona over the NL West leaders.

Drury had four hits, including a home run, and got his chance in the 12th after the Dodgers intentionally walked Jake Lamb. Ross Stripling (4-8) got the loss.

Athletics 5, Rangers 2

In Arlington, Khris Davis homered twice, giving him 40 this season for Oakland.

Davis is the first A's player to hit 40 homers since Jason Giambi had 43 in 2000. Davis has 10 homers in 15 games against the Rangers.

Ross Detwiler (2-3) went 5 1/3 innings and limited AL West-leading Texas to two runs. Ryan Dull got his third save.

Royals 10, White Sox 3

In Kansas City, Kendrys Morales homered for his 1,000th career hit and drove in four runs while Danny Duffy pitched effectively into the eighth inning for

Broadhurst birdies 18th to win at Pebble Beach

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP)—Paul Broadhurst birdied the par-5 18th at Pebble Beach on Sunday to win the PGA Tour Champions' Nature Valley First Tee Open.

The Senior British Open winner at Carnoustie in July for his first victory on the 50-and-over tour, Broadhurst made a 6-foot birdie putt on 18 after running his first attempt past the hole.

The 51-year-old Englishman finished with a 4-under 68 for a one-stroke victory over Bernhard Langer

and playing partner Kevin Sutherland. Broadhurst joined Ben Hogan and Tom Watson as the only players to win at both Pebble Beach and Carnoustie.

"Obviously, the scoreboards are all around the last four holes so I was well aware of what was going on and knew I needed to birdie the last to avoid a playoff," Broadhurst said. "Probably hit two of the best shots I've ever hit up 18. Perfect tee shot and a really good utility into the

green just on the front edge. I managed to two-putt from 30 feet, so yeah, absolutely delighted."

Langer birdied the last for a 66, and Sutherland birdied the final two holes for a 70. Sutherland, from Sacramento, missed a chance to win the home event for this first senior title.

"I waited to the end to make some birdies but better late than never, I guess," said Sutherland, a stroke ahead of Broadhurst entering the round. "One thing



Bradford leads Vikings over Packers in Minnesota debut



MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Sam Bradford had a Minnesota debut almost as dazzling as the new \$1.1 billion building itself, completing 22 of 30 passes for 286 yards, two touchdowns and no turnovers to lead the Vikings to a 17-14 victory over the Green Bay Packers on Sunday night.

The defense did the rest, sacking Aaron Rodgers five times and producing two turnovers in the fourth quarter that quashed the comeback and sent the crowd of 66,813 into a deafening frenzy in celebration of first regular-season game at U.S. Bank Stadium.

Adrian Peterson limped off in the third quarter with a right knee injury, and only 19 yards on 12 carries, but the Vikings (2-0) proved they still have a lot of options. Stefon Diggs caught nine passes for 182 yards a touchdown. They held the Packers (1-1) to 65 total yards in the first half, withstanding an early touchdown pass by Rodgers to Jordy Nelson on a drive aided by two penalties by cornerback Terence Newman.

Trae Waynes, who had two penalties himself, intercepted Rodgers' pass in Vikings territory in the closing minutes to seal the victory. The previous drive was killed when Brian Robison knocked the ball out of the hands of Rodgers, who ran for 29 yards and a touchdown. He began to find a groove throwing the ball late, but Bradford was the better quarterback on this night.

Patriots 31, Dolphins 24

In Foxborough, Jimmy Garoppolo had three, first-half touchdown passes before leaving in the second quarter with a right shoulder injury.

It was the Patriots' eighth straight home victory over Miami (0-2). It came at a price as New England (2-0) was dealt another blow at quarterback with Tom Brady already out his four-game "Deflategate" suspension.

Garoppolo's injury came in a flash. On third down with less than five minutes left in the first half, he was chased out of the pocket and got off a completion to Malcolm Mitchell. Garoppolo was driven into the ground on his shoulder by Miami linebacker Kiko Alonso.

Steelers 24, Bengals 16

In Pittsburgh, Ben Roethlisberger threw for 259 yards and three touchdowns to offset a pair of interceptions.

DeAngelo Williams churned out 94 yards on a career-high 32 carries and added



Minnesota Vikings quarterback Sam Bradford (8) throws a pass during the first half of an NFL football game against the Green Bay Packers, Sunday, Sept. 18, 2016, in Minneapolis.

Giants 13, Saints 10

In East Rutherford, Eli Manning hit Victor Cruz on a third-down 34-yard pass to set up Josh Brown's winning 23-yard field goal as time expired. The Giants got off to their first 2-0 start since 2009, while New Orleans lost its second straight.

Brown's third field goal capped an 11-play, 70-yard drive that featured two key third-down passes by Manning and a pass interference call on a throw to Odell Beckham Jr.

The game was also redemption for the Giants' defense.

Ravens 25, Broncos 20

In Cleveland, Joe Flacco threw two touchdown passes to Mike Wallace and the Ravens rallied from a 20-point first-quarter deficit.

Justin Tucker kicked three field goals and the Ravens (2-0) withstood Cleveland's final drive to improve to 15-2 against the Browns under coach John Harbaugh.

Panthers 46, 49ers 27

In Charlotte, Cam Newton threw for 353 yards and four touchdowns, and the Panthers overcame four turnovers.

Newton threw two TD passes to Kelvin Benjamin and one each to Greg Olsen and Devin Funchess to pass Jake Delhomme for most TD passes in franchise history with 122.

Newton showed no ill effects from the four helmet-to-helmet hits he took in Carolina's season-opening loss to Denver.

Titans 16, Lions 15

In Detroit, Marcus Mariota converted a fourth down with a perfectly lofted 9-yard pass TD pass to Andre Johnson with 1:13 left.

Mariota dropped the pass over linebacker Tahir Whitehead to Johnson just before safety Rafael Bush could get to the veteran receiver.

Tennessee went 93 yards on 13 plays over nearly 6 minutes on the game-winning drive.

Texans 19, Chiefs 12

In Houston, DeAndre Hopkins had 113 yards receiving and a touchdown and Nick Novak kicked four field goals. Novak connected from 32, 24, 31 and 43 yards for the Texans (2-0).

Cairo Santos made three field goals in the fourth quarter to cut the lead to 19-12, but Houston recovered the onside kick with less than a minute left.

a 4-yard touchdown grab. Tight ends Jesse James and Xavier Grimble also caught scoring passes from Roethlisberger as the Steelers (2-0) kept Cincinnati in check at rainy Heinz Field.

Rams 9, Seahawks 3

In Los Angeles, Greg Zuerlein kicked three field goals, the longest a 47-yarder in the fourth quarter, and the Rams marked the return of pro football to Los Angeles for the first time in nearly 22 years with a win.

Plenty of penalties slowed down the game for the announced crowd of 91,046 on a searing day at the Memorial Coliseum, where the Rams commemorated the long-awaited occasion by wearing blue-and-gold throwback uniforms.

Broncos 34, Colts 20

In Denver, Von Miller gave

the Denver fans a reminder of his Super Bowl 50 MVP performance, sweeping in for the sack-strip of Andrew Luck that sealed the win.

With the Broncos clinging to a six-point lead with 1:51 remaining, Miller burst past right tackle Joe Reitz and swiped the ball from Luck's grasp. Fellow linebacker Shane Ray scooped up the ball and returned it 15 yards for a touchdown.

Falcons 35, Raiders 28

In Oakland, Justin Hardy caught a deflected 8-yard touchdown pass to break a tie midway through the fourth quarter.

Matt Ryan threw three TD passes, but got lucky on the go-ahead one in the fourth quarter. His third-down throw to Tevin Coleman was broken up, but the ball bounced high in the air and Hardy caught it in the end zone to put Atlanta

(1-1) up 28-21.

Buccaneers 40, Cardinals 7

In Glendale, Carson Palmer threw for 308 yards and three touchdowns and Arizona (1-1) intercepted Jameis Winston four times.

Marcus Cooper, acquired off waivers from Kansas City on Sept. 2, had two interceptions, returning the second 60 yards for a score. Winston also fumbled the ball away once.

Chargers 38, Jaguars 14

In San Diego, Philip Rivers matched his career-high with four touchdown passes, including two to Travis Benjamin and Melvin Gordon ran for one score and had his first 100-yard game.

The Chargers (1-1) bounced back from their stunning loss at Kansas City, when they blew a 21-point third-quarter lead and fell 33-

27 in overtime.

The Jaguars started 0-2 for the fourth time in five seasons. They crossed midfield only six times and committed three turnovers.

Cowboys 27, Redskins 23

In Landover, Alfred Morris scored the go-ahead touchdown on a 4-yard run with under five minutes left, leading the Cowboys over his former team.

Washington's Kirk Cousins threw an end-zone interception that set up a long Dallas drive to the winning score.

With rookie quarterback Dak Prescott looking poised throughout and scrambling for a 6-yard TD run in the second half, Dallas (1-1) won for only the second time in its past 16 games without the injured Tony Romo—and both of those victories came at Washington (0-2).

Goodell: A lot of work to be done before NFL approves Vegas

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Commissioner Roger Goodell says there is "still a lot of work to be done" before the NFL considers Las Vegas as a possible destination for a franchise.

Goodell was asked if the league was open to Las Vegas as an NFL market before the Minnesota Vikings hosted the Green Bay Packers on Sunday night, three days after a Nevada oversight committee voted to recommend spending \$750 million in public money on an NFL stadium. The project is being discussed to lure the Raiders away from Oakland.

Goodell said the decision

ultimately would come down to getting the approval of 24 owners, but he stressed that they are a long way from getting to that point and also expressed hope that the Raiders could find a stadium solution to remain in Oakland.

"There's still a lot that has to happen before we would get to that stage," Goodell said of the owners approving Las Vegas as an NFL city. "Recognizing that they came out of committee with a bill, but there's still a lot of work to be done to improve that recommendation."

He said he is still evaluating whether having a team

play in a casino-filled city is a good idea.

Goodell was in Minnesota to help the Vikings host their grand opening of U.S. Bank Stadium, a \$1.1 billion facility that included more than \$450 million in public financing. If Oakland cannot come up with a public-private partnership on a new stadium like Minnesota did, it risks losing the Raiders for a second time.

The Southern Nevada Tourism Infrastructure Committee recommended raising the hotel tax in the Las Vegas area to help pay for a 65,000-seat domed venue that would be home to the Raiders and the

UNLV football team. Billionaire casino mogul Sheldon Adelson has pledged \$650 million toward the project.

"Well, you never want to see a community lose their franchise once, much less twice," Goodell said. "That's why we work so hard with our communities to say, 'This is what you have to try to get to,' because you need to try to make sure this franchise continues to be successful."

"The Minnesota community did that in a great way. I think we can do it in Oakland. I think there's a solution there, but it takes the community to help identify it."

Donovan scores in return, Galaxy tie Sporting KC

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP)—Landon Donovan scored his first goal since coming out of retirement and the Los Angeles Galaxy tied Sporting KC 2-2 on Sunday.

Donovan and the Galaxy announced his return on Sept. 8, ending a 21-month retirement to at least play the rest of this season.

Donovan entered in the 74th minute and scored two minutes later with his left foot after a give-and-go with Robbie Rogers.

The 34-year-old Donovan is widely considered the most accomplished player in American soccer history and the most successful player in the history of the MLS, which named its MVP award after him.

Los Angeles (11-4-15) moved into second place in the Western Conference standings—four points behind FC Dallas. Sporting KC (11-12-7) is five points ahead of Seattle



for the sixth and final playoff spot.

Alan Gordon scored his second goal in two games in the

seventh minute to give Los Angeles a 1-0 lead. Emmanuel Boateng chased down a ball at the edge of the 18-yard box and chipped a cross in front of goal to find Gordon's head.

Los Angeles Galaxy players block a free kick during the first half of an MLS soccer match against Sporting Kansas City in Kansas City, Kan., Sunday, Sept. 18, 2016.

Jacob Peterson tied it at 1-all in the 50th when he headed home Dominic Dwyer's cross. It was Peterson's fifth straight home goal.

Peterson's fifth straight home goal made it 2-1 in the 69th. Benny Feilhaber quickly played a free kick, Saad Abdul-Salaam was first to the through ball in the 18-yard box and Dwyer touched home a cross.

Sporting goalkeeper Tim Melia returned to the starting lineup after missing the last six games due to a back injury.



Toronto FC tied the New York Red Bulls on Sunday to wrap up a playoff spot.

Altidore took Michael Bradley's pass and beat a defender, turning at the edge of the penalty box to fire the ball home. Altidore also scored in a free kick in the 68th minute to pull Toronto (13-8-8) within one. He has eight goals in his last nine games.

The Red Bulls (12-9-9) missed a chance to clinch a playoff spot, blowing 2-0 and 3-1 leads

Toronto is 7-1-2 in its last 10 games to take a two-point lead in the Eastern Conference to two points

The Red Bulls extended their club-record unbeaten streak in league play to 12 games (5-0-7).

Bradley Wright-Phillips, scoring in his sixth straight game, upped his season goals total to 20 with a pair for New York. The Red Bulls also got an own goal from Toronto's Steven Beitashour.

Bradley also scored for Toronto, which fell behind 2-0 after 31 minutes.

Mourinho fears United succumbing to pressure after 3rd loss

LONDON (AP)—The footballing divide in Manchester is becoming clearer a month into the season.

On the blue side, Pep Guardiola is thriving at the start of his Manchester City career with five wins out of five in the Premier League.

On the red side, Jose Mourinho is discovering the toils David Moyes and Louis van Gaal endured trying to live up to Alex Ferguson's high achievements during his 26-year reign at United.

After opening the campaign with three successive wins, the record 20-time English champions have now lost three games in around a week.

United's 3-1 loss at Watford on Sunday—ending a 30-year unbeaten run against the club based north of London—followed a losing start to the Eu-

ropa League on Thursday at Feyenoord in the Netherlands. The miserable sequence started last Saturday

by losing the first Manchester derby of the season to Guardiola's City.

"I feel that some individuals probably feel the pressure and responsibility too much," Mourinho said at Vicarage Road. "We started the season very well with (winning) the Community Shield and three victories in a row in the Premier League, the best start that a new manager has had at Manchester United I think."

"But was I thinking that my team was ready, perfect, unbeatable? Not at all. I was completely aware that we were not perfect, with lots of players who are not end products and

can make their own mistakes."

Although 18-year-old Marcus Rashford marked his first start of the season for

Mourinho by canceling out Etienne Capoue's opener, Watford surged back in front in the 83rd minute at Vicarage Road. Substitute Camilo Zuniga scored within a minute of coming off the bench and Troy Deeney netted a penalty in the fifth minute of stoppage time.

It's only five games into the Premier League season but United is already six points behind the leaders—Guardiola's City.

"We have to improve, no doubt, individually and collectively," Mourinho said. "And that's my job."

If not Manchester United could be missing out on the



KANOA

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Kanoa then gained cushion when Toves found the back of the net in the 38th minute while Oliver Fajardo, who moved to the forward spot after playing goalie for TanHoldings lit up the board in the 39th to keep his team in the game. However, a goal from Lubao in the 45th gave Kanoa the insurance, while Tan Holdings failed to score in the last five minutes of the match.

In the other co-ed U12 competitive tiff, Paire, which sizzled for nine goals in their draw against TanHoldings in the league's opening week, was still on target, routing the debuting MP United 2, 9-3.

Max Church led Paire with his four goals, while Dylan Mister and Maui Johnson

chipped in two apiece. Erin Frink added one goal for the winning squad.

Church kicked off Paire's offense with his two straight goals with the first recorded right in the opening minute and the second in the 21st. Church went on to complete a hat trick in the first half with his third goal logged in the 23rd, while Frink and Mister scored in the 22nd and 29th, respectively to lift Paire to a commanding 5-0 halftime advantage.

In the second half, Johnson earned his first goal for Paire's 6-0 lead, while Garrett Weaver finally put MP United 2 on the board with his shot in the 42nd. Johnson made it back-to-back when he found his target in the 43rd minute, while the Weavers—Tori and Garette—handed MP United 2 two more

goals, scoring in the 45th and 46th, respectively. Paire countered with two goals, too, with the penultimate coming from Mister in the 55th and the last from Church a minute later.

BOYS U17 TanHoldings 5, Kanoa 0

In the first game at the Oleai Sports Complex Field, TanHoldings eased past the debuting Kanoa.

Louie Calayag drilled a pair of goals for TanHoldings, which improved to a 2-0-0 record for the lead in the division. Mareko Tekopua, Jonathan Capayas, and Joshua Galarion contributed one goal apiece.

Calayag hit his goals in consecutive fashion with the first registered in the 26th minute and the second six minutes later.

Tekopua also posted his goal in the first half (39th min-

ute) for the team's 3-0 halftime advantage, while Capayas and Galarion scored in the 45th and 77th, respectively.

Tottenham 1, Sunderland 0

Moyes is trying to revive a reputation tarnished by his time at United at a club renowned for its struggle to stay in the Premier League. Five games into the season, Sunderland only has one point after this fourth loss.

It was a mixed day for Tottenham. Harry Kane scored in consecutive league games for the first time since March by tapping into Sunderland's goal in the second half. But the league's top scorer in the last campaign was stretched off toward the end of Sunday's fixture at White Hart Lane with an ankle injury.

ute) for the team's 3-0 halftime advantage, while Capayas and Galarion scored in the 45th and 77th, respectively.

MP United 2, Matansa 2

The second game in the division ended in a draw after Matansa's Jun Sik Kim knocked in the equalizer in the 52nd minute.

Earlier in the seventh minute, Edwin Kim's conversion gave MP United a 1-0 lead, while an own goal from the error of Matansa's James Ermitanio made it a 2-0 cushion for MPU. Jun Sik Kim then moved Matansa within one with his shot in the 24th minute before he scored anew in the second half to force the standoff.

With the draw, Matansa now has a 1-1-0 record in the five-team field, while MP United holds a 0-1-1 slate.

Toronto FC 3, Red Bulls 0

In Toronto, Jozy Altidore scored his second goal of the game in the 86th minute and

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Leynes (1:25:49).

In other results in the short course (25K to 30K), Bel Tan topped the women's MTB after submitting 1:31:31. She prevailed against Shawna Bennfleck (1:36:19) and Meihua Rengil (1:39:07). In the road bike category, Kathy Ruzala recorded 1:41:10 to cut the tape ahead of Claire Summers (2:00:13). Other finishers in the short course were Leo Yaguel (1:27:48) and Edcar Villarin (1:32:00).

In the long course, MTB category, the division winners were Mark Isip (2:23:36), Ding Ramos (2:33:37), Floro Derexes (2:53:42), and Boboy Aguilar (3:09:25). Isip was the overall first finisher in the MTB, beating Noe Valdissimo (2:23:37) and Noel Altamirano (2:29:45), while Aguilar took the men's 55 and above top honors against Ronald Strover (3:20:06). Ramos and Derexes won in

the men's 40 to 49 and 50 to 54 age groups, respectively.

In the road bike category, young gun Taiga Sato timed in at 2:29:59 to down Ernie Henzon in the men's 30 and below division, while Manny Sitchon tallied 2:38:58 to place ahead of Steve Nutting (3:16:58) in the men's 55 and above age group. Cesar Fortaleza (2:26:04) and Angel Marie Tan (3:27:07) were the other division winners, prevailing in the men's 50 to 54 and women's.

Road to Hell Series 2 was part of pre-Hell of Marianas races and was supported by Triple J Wholesale, Gatorade/PTC, and Marianas Resort.

Meanwhile, the island's bikers will return to the road this Saturday as they are invited to participate in the Prostate and Childhood Cancer Awareness Run/Bike For a Cause.

Registrations for the run and bike races are free and will start from 4:30am to 5:30am at the American Memorial Park grounds. Races will begin at 6am.

swimming, canoe racing, baseball, spearfishing, and men's and women's basketball. The CNMI won 14 gold medals, 15 silvers, and five bronzes in the last edition of the Micro Games to rank sixth in the medal standings behind Guam (42-27-12), Pohnpei (36-41-37), Palau (36-31-38), Marshall Islands (34-23-33), and Yap (17-23-15) and ahead of Kosrae (4-3-11), Nauru (3-9-5), and Chuuk (3-4-9).

YAP

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der the Micro Games calendar are being played in the CNMI and Northern Marianas Sports Association is encouraging interested local federations to prepare early, especially their fundraising activities.

In the 2014 Micronesian Games in Pohnpei, Team Marianas had a small delegation, competing only in athletics, weightlifting,

GCA vs SIS in COPSSA Volleyball League

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Saipan International School 1's Go Sekiguchi sets up a teammate during their game against Grace Christian Academy 1 in the middle school division of the 2016-2017 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Volleyball League last week at the GCA court.



A Saipan International School 1 player eyes the ball for a return near the net.



Saipan International School 1's Go Sekiguchi serves to Grace Christian Academy 1.



A Saipan International School 1 player bumps the ball.



Grace Christian Academy 1's Ji Min Woo serves to Saipan International School 1.



A Saipan International School 1 player goes for a spike.



Grace Christian Academy 1's William Kim hits the ball.



Grace Christian Academy 1 players and their coach huddle after beating Saipan International School 1.



Mets sweep
Twins, take
lead in NL
wild card race

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Bradford leads
Vikings over
Packers in
Minnesota debut

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Kanoa gets early lead; Paire wins

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Kanoa Football Club took the early lead in the co-ed U12 competitive division of the 2016 NMIFA Youth Fall League, while Paire FC continued its goal rush last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Kanoa edged TanHoldings FC, 5-3, to for its second win in as many games and the No. 1 spot in the team standings of the five-squad field. TanHoldings dropped to a 0-1-1 win-draw-loss record.

Jaydee Jose had a pair of goals for Kanoa, while Merrick Toves and Ian Lubao contributed one apiece. Kanoa got a free goal from TanHoldings' error. Jose nailed his first in the ninth minute to open up the scoring for Kanoa, while the team's second goal came in the 13th after TanHoldings



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Paire FC player, center, is doubled team by MP United 2 defenders during the second half of their game in the co-ed U12 competitive division of the NMIFA youth league last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

made a mistake.

Earlier in the 11th minute, Taro Goto knocked in his first goal, allowing TanHoldings to force a



deadlock. However, that was the only time TanHoldings evened up the count, as Kanoa got another goal from Jose in the 18th minute

for a 3-1 advantage. Goto's second goal in the 22nd moved TanHoldings within one at the break, 2-3.

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Yap allots over \$1M for 2018 Micro Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Preparations for Yap's hosting of the 2018 Micronesian Games are moving forward as the state has appropriated more than \$1 million for the quadrennial event.



Yap State Governor Tony Ganngyan early this month signed Bill No. 9-56, D2 into law (YSL 9-39), appropriating \$1,371,210 from the General Fund of the State of Yap for Fiscal Year 2016 to fund the preparation for the 2018 Micronesian Games and other purposes.

Majority of the funds will be used for renovations of the sports facilities of Yap, while a small portion from the appropriation will be for marketing and awareness purposes.

The track and field facility received the biggest chunk from the allotment, as \$606,250 will be used for its repairs. The Yap Sports Complex Gymnasium will also

undergo a facelift for a cost of \$239,920, while \$273,250 is set for the repair works at the baseball field. The tennis courts will be upgraded, too, and the state has allotted \$184,550 for the facility.

As for the marketing/awareness

budget, \$10,000 has been appropriated for used by the marketing coordinator, \$700 for community awareness, and \$2,540 for neighboring islands meetings.

The 2018 Micronesian Games will take place from July 15 to 28 and will have 18 sports: athletics, baseball, 3x3 basketball, basketball, beach volleyball, indoor volleyball, Micro All-Around, paddling, soccer (men's 11 aside and women's 7 aside), softball (for women), spearfishing, swimming, table tennis, tennis, traditional sailing, weightlifting, and wrestling.

Majority of the events un-

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Garcia, Bandoja show way in Road to Hell Series 2

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Ariel Garcia and Gary Bandoja emerged as the overall finishers in the long and short

courses in last Sunday's Road to Hell Series 2.

Garcia completed the 60K race that brought riders from



Mariana Resort to Mobil Tanapag (two laps), Radar, Suicide Cliff, Bird Island Lookout, Grotto, Banzai Cliff and back to

Mariana Resort in 2:13:08.4, beating Dizon (2:13:08.6) in a photo finish. Wynn Brillo rounded out the Top 3 in the men's road bike division of the long course after clocking in at 2:15:23.

In the short course, which had bikers leaving Mariana Resort to go to Mobil Tanapag (one loop) and proceeding to Bird Island Lookout, Grotto, and Banzai Cliff before heading back to the starting line, Bandoja timed in at 1:23:28 to place first in the men's MTB division. He won over Ranie Palad (1:25:32) and Ruben

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Road to Hell Series 2 organizer Ricky Castro, short course third overall finisher Ruben Leynes, first placer Gary Bandoja, runner-up Ranie Palad, and event announcer Jay Diyco pose for a photo during the awards ceremony for last Sunday's competition at the Mariana Resort.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Lia Rangamar, right, kicks the ball out as a Guam player reaches in for a steal during their game in the 2014 Micronesian Game in Pohnpei. The next Micro Games will be held in Yap in 2018.